THURSDAY
August 10, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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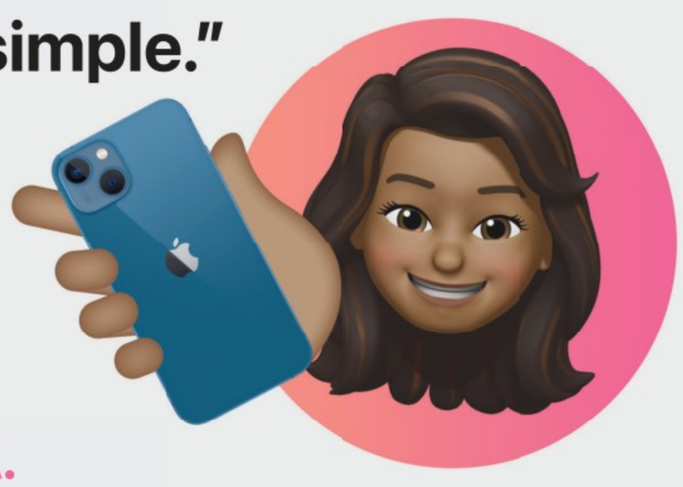

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QUIT INDIA ANNIVERSARY

Detained by police, says Tushar Gandhi

NEWS » PAGE 14

APPEAL TO GOVT.

Panel flags shortage of fertilizers

NEWS » PAGE 16

ARTICLE 370 HEARING

SC poses query on J&K Constitution

NEWS » PAGE 14

DATA POINT

Terror-related deaths continue in Kashmir

Centre claims in SC that peace prevails in J&K

OPINION » PAGE 13

COMMANDING WIN

India brushes aside Pakistan, tops table

SPORT » PAGE 19

NEARBY

'We're working on incentivising public transport'

BENGALURU
Pointing out that parking is expensive in London to disincentivise private transport and that nowhere in the world is parking free, City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said the police are working with the government to come up with solutions that can incentivise public transport.
» Page 2

Colleges not keen to offer evening engg. course

BENGALURU
Despite the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) nod, no government, aided or private affiliated institution in Karnataka has come forward to offer three-year engineering programmes (B-Tech/BE) for working professionals.
» Page 7

Govt. plans year-long events from November 1

BENGALURU
Karnataka has decided to hold year-long celebrations from November 1 to mark the golden anniversary of its renaming from the erstwhile State of Mysore. Kannada and Culture Minister Shivaraj Tangadagi said the nature of the programmes would be finalised after holding meetings with Kannada writers and activists » Page 8

Shah appeals for peace in Manipur, backs CM Biren

Centre does not intend to make demographic changes in Manipur... ethnic violence is shameful, but politicising it is even more shameful, says Minister during debate on no-confidence motion

Nistula Hebbar
Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

Home Minister Amit Shah made an appeal to both the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities in Manipur to shun violence and enter into a dialogue with each other and with the Union government, which he said had no intentions of effecting demographic changes in the State.

He was speaking in the Lok Sabha, during the debate on the no-confidence motion moved by the Opposition against the Modi-led government.

The appeal was made at the end of Mr. Shah's speech, which ran for more than two hours. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla also asked members to support the peace appeal. The Congress leader in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhary, asked that a draft of the appeal be first worked out and a formal resolution to the effect be passed in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. However, with a large number of MPs in the Treasury benches raising their hands in support, the appeal was made and the House adjourned.

In defence: Home Minister Amit Shah taking part in a discussion on the no-confidence motion in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

Manipur, roiled by ethnic violence since May 3, formed a crucial part of Mr. Shah's speech. He staunchly defended Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, stating that the imposition of President's Rule or removal of a Chief Minister was needed only if a Chief Minister was not "cooperating" with the Centre.

"We sent a new Chief Secretary for the State, changed the Director-General of Police, and the security adviser, the Chief Minister had cooperated in all interventions," he said.

"It is a matter of shame that such incidents took place, but it is a greater shame that politics is being played on it," he said, referring to Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's visit to Manipur. The Minister spoke at length about the government's record in internal security, especially in the three "hotspots" of strife: Jammu and Kashmir, left-wing extremism, and in the northeast, where a lot of investment has been made by the government politically and through Central intervention.

"The entire country has been misled that the government is not ready to discuss Manipur," he said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14
MORE REPORTS
» PAGE 15

Rahul says BJP's Manipur politics is an onslaught on 'Bharat Mata'

Seeking answers: Congress MP Rahul Gandhi speaking on the no-confidence motion in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

The politics of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has destroyed the spirit of 'Bharat Mata' ('Mother India') in Manipur, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said in a blistering attack on the Modi government on the second day of the no-confidence debate in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

The exact words used by Mr. Gandhi were removed from the official records by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, according to a bulletin issued later.

In a high-voltage speech, his first after being reinstated as an MP, Mr. Gandhi referred to BJP leaders as unpatriotic; accused the ruling party of "sprinkling kerosene everywhere and putting the country on fire"; and cited the recent communal flare-up in Haryana.

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not visiting Manipur, Mr. Gandhi said Mr. Modi did not consider the strife-torn State a part of India, a comment that evoked strong protest from the Treasury benches. "I went to Manipur a few days ago but our Prime Minister has still not gone there. He does not consider Manipur a part of India. I used the word Manipur, but the reality is that there is no Manipur left...," Mr. Gandhi said.

Mr. Modi was not present when the Congress leader spoke. Mr. Gandhi said the Indian Army could bring peace to Manipur in one day, but the government was not deploying it.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Pakistan Parliament to be dissolved to set stage for election

Reuters
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said he would advise the President to dissolve Parliament late on Wednesday, setting the stage for a national election as the country grapples with political and economic crises.

Parliament's five-year term is due to expire on August 12.

Mr. Sharif said he would start discussions with the Opposition leader on Thursday to pick a name from candidate lists of both sides to nominate as caretaker Prime Minister.

Mr. Sharif's recommendation has to be endorsed by President Arif Alvi and the election held within 90 days under the supervision of a caretaker government.

Poll may be delayed

The vote, however, could be delayed several months with the Election Commission set to start redrawing hundreds of constituencies based on a fresh census.

The previous general election in July 2018 was won by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, the party of cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan, who was sworn in days later as Prime Minister.

Khan has been at the heart of political turmoil since he was ousted in a no-confidence vote last year. He has since been convicted and jailed in a graft case, following which he has been barred from contesting in any election for five years.

No police operations without presence of Central forces, Shah assures Kuki-Zo team

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday asked a delegation of Kuki-Zo leaders from Manipur to restore peace in the region before political talks are held. The tribal community has been demanding a separate administration from the State of Manipur.

Mr. Shah assured the members that Manipur Police commandos will not conduct operations in the hill areas without the presence of Central security forces and all checkposts leading to the hills will be manned by Assam Rifles, Muan Tombing, general secretary of the Indigenous Tribal Leaders Forum (ITLF), told *The Hindu*.

In the two-hour meeting, ITLF raised 10 demands with the Home Minister which included deployment of more Central forces in the buffer zone.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Develop indigenous Web browser, grab cash prizes

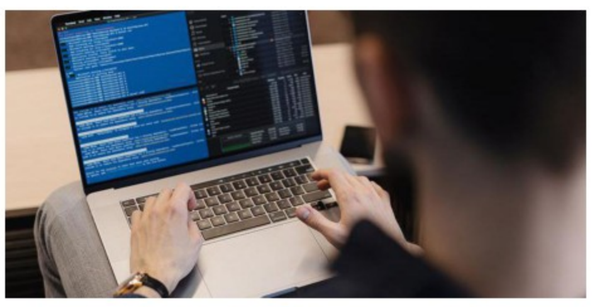
Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Cash prizes amounting to ₹3.4 crore are being promised to developers who help create an indigenous Indian Web browser "for the world", the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology announced on Wednesday.

An important caveat is that browser ideas entered into this competition will have to trust the Controller of Certifying Authorities (CCA), the Indian government's authority for digital signatures, including SSL (Security Sockets Layer) certificates.

SSL certificates are used to encrypt websites and to make sure that browsers know that a website is not being modified or impersonated by attackers. Browsers know to trust these certificates if they are issued by a certifying authority that is in turn trusted by a 'root certifying authority'.

India does not have a root certifying authority trusted by major browsers such as Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox and Microsoft Edge.



India does not have a root certifying authority that is recognised or trusted by major Web browsers. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

This has led to a situation where the government operates a root certifying authority that is legally valid under Indian law – the Root Certifying Authority of India, set up in 2000 under the CCA – but the certificates issued under its purview are largely not recognised by Web browsers, leading Indian government and private websites to purchase SSL certificates from foreign certifying authorities.

This follows at least one major security lapse linked to an Indian certifying authority. One CCA-approved organisation – the National Informatics Centre (NIC), which hosts and maintains several Union and State Government websites – has had a contentious history as far as being trusted by browsers goes.

In July 2014, operating systems such as Windows and web-browser developers for Google Chrome and Firefox stopped trusting India's CCA in their 'root store,' a repository of trusted root certifying authorities, after the NIC appeared to issue fraudulent certificates to websites.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Contractors threaten stir over dues

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Miffed over non-payment of dues by the ruling dispensation, the Karnataka State Contractors' Association has threatened to stop work across the State if their pending bills are not cleared soon. The pendency, cumulatively, has mounted to around ₹25,000 crore in the State over the past about 26 months.

However, amidst allegations made by JD (S) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy that Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar had been demanding "commission" to clear pending bills, D. Kempanna, president of the association, who was the face of contractors' campaign against the "40% commission" under the previous regime, told *The Hindu* that their complaint at the moment is "about non-clearance of bills and not corruption".

INTERVIEW ON
» PAGE 8

Number of elephants in State goes up by 364 from last census, touches 6,395

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

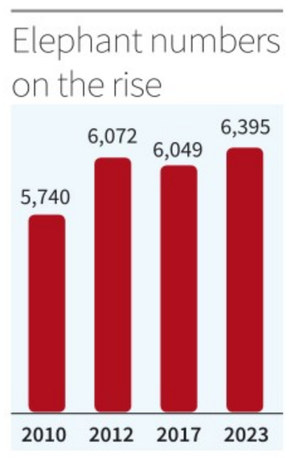
The number of elephants in Karnataka has increased by 346, from an estimated 6,049 in 2017 to 6,395 now, which is the highest in the country, according to an interim report on Asian Elephant population and demography estimates – 2023. Their population range is estimated to be between 5,914 and 6,877.

The report was released by Minister for Forests Eshwar Khandre here on Wednesday, ahead of the World Elephant Day being observed on August 12 to create awareness about the importance of preserving and protecting these animals that are classified as endangered species.

Synchronised census

The report has been prepared after a synchronised elephant census was conducted from May 17 to 19 by the Karnataka Forest Department in collaboration with neighbouring Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Goa.

The census exercise involved more than 3,400 personnel from across 32 forest divisions of the State. FILE PHOTO



The number of elephants in Karnataka that had risen from 5,740 in 2010 to 6,072 in 2012 had decreased to 6,049 in 2017. However, this time the number of pachyderms has increased by 346. With this, the elephant numbers have increased by 655 in the State since 2010. The census, taken up in 23 forest divisions, shows that the State has an average elephant density of 0.34 per sq km. Bandipur Tiger Reserve with 1,116 elephants has accounted for the highest density of 0.96 per sq km followed by Nagarahole Tiger Reserve that has 831 elephants with a density of 0.93.

Similarly, BRT Tiger Reserve with 619 elephants accounts for a density of 0.69, while MM Hills Wildlife Sanctuary has a density of only 0.60 despite having 706 elephants.

Technical support

The State Forest Department conducted the elephant population estimation exercise with technical support from Prof. R. Sukumar of the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. The census exercise involved more than 3,400 personnel from across 32 forest divisions of the State.

RELATED REPORT
» PAGE 2

Impossible is not Moroccan

The Arab nation's fairy tale run to the round of 16 in the FIFA Women's World Cup could be the start of a new chapter; less than a year ago, it became the first African, and Arab, nation to reach the semifinal of the Men's World Cup

Vighnesh P. Venkitesh

The fairy tale journey Moroccan women's team was on came to an end on Tuesday when it lost to a dominant France. But the Atlas Lionesses have no reason to drop their heads, as their run to reach the round of 16 in the FIFA women's World Cup was nothing but historic. Morocco became the first Arab nation to play in the knockout stage and also fielded Noulhaila Benzina, who became the first hijab-wearing player to take part in the game.

The African Arab nation is riding a high tide of football. Less than a year ago, it became the first African, and Arab, nation to reach the semifinal of a FIFA men's World Cup, where it overcame former champion Spain and fan favourite Portugal on its way, only to be stopped by, coincidentally, France. Now with the women's team going through the group stage ahead of Germany, which thrashed it 6-0 in their opening game, it is fair to say the Moroccan spring of football has begun.

Both teams found themselves carrying the hopes of the African continent and the Arab world, and both have succeeded in not disappointing them. Moroccan fans did their best to stand with the players who made them proud on the global stage. The hashtag 'the impossible is not moroccan', and 'dima maghrib', meaning 'always Morocco' were trending on social media before the round of 16 clash. Although it resulted in heart break, the Atlas Lionesses and Lions have proved that Morocco can make the impossible happen.

Morocco has been on the global stage of football for quite a long time and has made the occassional ripple. In 1986 the men's team became the first African nation to go past the group stage in a World Cup, the same feat its women's counterpart has achieved now. Even though it doesn't have any major silverware to show, it was for a long time a force to reckon inside Africa and is now widening its reputation.

Morocco is also preparing a bid to co-host the 2030 men's World Cup with its European neighbours Spain and Portugal. It has previously unsuccessfully attempted to host the prestigious event five times, the most recent of which was thwarted by U.S. Mexico and Canada for the 2026 edition.

The success of Moroccan women can be attributed to their domestic leagues where the situation is far better than the rest of Arab and African countries. Morocco is the only Arab nation with a two-tier professional league for women. The players of Moroccan academies have the same access to all facilities as the men have. Qatar, which hosted the 2022 men's World Cup is pouring money to develop its men's team while the women's team is neglected. The last official match Qatar women played was at the West Asian Football Federation's Women's Championship in 2014. There is no mention of the Qatar women's team on the website of Qatar football association nor is it listed in FIFA rankings.

Jordan made moves to establish its women's team on the global stage by hosting the 2016 U-17 women's World Cup and the 2018 AFC women's Asia Cup, but has since vanished. Saudi Arabia is trying to catch up to Morocco.

The Saudi push

Women in Saudi were allowed to spectate games in stadiums only in 2017, but since then women's football has seen an exponential growth, with the state heavily investing to make up for the lost time. It launched its official women's league in 2020 and its national team received a FIFA ranking in 2023. It has made qualifying for the World Cup its next target.

The women's World Cup is not just a stage for sporting battles, and can often spiral into disagreements on gender equality, like the 2019 feud between American superstar Megan Rapinoe and then President Donald Trump, or Brazilian star Martha's statement wearing blood red lipstick on ground. With elements of struggles for gender equality to be found in the undercurrents of each tournament, the 2023 edition saw the Jamaican national team having to resort to crowdfunding to raise money to attend the tournament.

In June FIFPRO, a global players' union released a report underlining disparities during the qualification stage of the tournament. It says that 29 per cent of players have not been paid for taking part in the qualification stage, and only 40 per cent consider themselves professionals.

The report also points out the lack of or insufficient facilities and safeguards for the players. Fiftyfour per cent of players did not receive medical examinations prior to the games. Gym and recovery facilities were sub-par or non-existent while stadiums were below standard.

"In highlighting these conditions and the status of players across the globe, FIFPRO firmly calls on the industry to take a closer look at the qualification processes in each of the six confederations," it says in the report.

While the tournament is running smoothly above ground, such disparities and struggles leading up to it keep gender equality in football far away. It is an uneven path, made ragged by societal norms, but teams around the world are slowly but surely trudging forward. Morocco and Saudi are among them, and hoping their neighbours will follow suit.

THE GIST

- The success of Moroccan women can be attributed to their domestic leagues where the situation is far better than the rest of Arab and African countries
- The players of Moroccan academies have the same access to all facilities as the men have

RETURN OF THE QUEEN

It has been almost exactly two years since Simone Biles competed. Last week, Biles made a stunning comeback at the US Classic. Her win was particularly noteworthy, especially after how things ended for her the last time: at the Tokyo Olympics, with a case of the 'twisties' — when gymnasts lose sense of spacial awareness while performing twisting movements. She then decided to take some time out to focus on her mental health. On Saturday, Biles dominated the field in a way that only she can. She competed in the all-around, vault, balance beam, uneven bars and the floor routine, coming in third only in the uneven bars. Her 'Yurchenko double pike' left the packed stadium stunned, and earned her an impressive 15.4 from the judges. What made her decide to return to competition? "This time I'm doing it for me, I worked a lot on myself, and I believe in myself a little bit more," she says. Will the world see her at the Paris Olympics? "It's heading in the right direction." AP

Fast, cool and deadly: Miyazawa spearheads Japan's charge

Agence France-Presse
TOKYO

Hinata Miyazawa had never been prolific for club or country before the Women's World Cup – now she is the tournament's leading scorer and spearheading Japan's surprise title charge.

The 23-year-old already has five goals in four matches and has Sweden in her sights in Friday's quarterfinal in Auckland.

"I honestly didn't think I could score this much," Miyazawa told reporters after her ice-cold finish in the 81st minute polished off Norway in the last 16.

It was typical of how Miyazawa, who plays in Japan's domestic women's league, has been at the World Cup: cool, calculating and deadly.

It is also noticeable that she has scored with both feet and rather than trying to smack the ball into the net, it is all about precision and placement.

Expectations were low at home ahead of the tournament that Japan could repeat their World Cup title success of 2011.

Miyazawa had only scored four times in more than 20 appearances for her country.

But Japan is playing some of the best football at the World Cup and Miyazawa's five goals equal the number that Homare Sawa achieved in the 2011 title success.

Born in Kanagawa prefecture outside Yokohama, Miyazawa fell in love with football while at kindergarten and in school was inspired by Japan's 2011 World Cup win.

The triumph by the team, nicknamed the "Nadeshiko" after a pink flower, helped lift Japan following the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster earlier that year.

Miyazawa joined Tokyo Verdy Beleza in 2018. The same year she helped Japan win the Under-20 World Cup and was selected for the senior team.

Echigo said that the Japan team doesn't really have a standout star, but in Miyazawa, with her trademark hairband, he sees a possible contender.

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INBRIEF

Disruption in power supply

There will be disruption in power supply on Thursday between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. in the areas serviced from 66/11kV Sarakki Substation for taking up maintenance work. According to a press release from BESCOM, Jayanagar division, the areas affected are: Shakambari Nagar, Pipe Line Road, Raghavendra Swamy Mutt, J.P. Nagar 1st Phase, 14th Cross, Puttenahalli area, Jayanagar 5th 7th and 8th Blocks, ITI Layout, SBI Colony, near R.V. Dental College, 24th Main, behind LIC Office, LIC Colony, K.R. Layout, Venktadri Layout, J.P. Nagar 5th Phase, Sai Nursery Road, J.P. Nagar 6th Phase, 15th and 16th Cross, 12th Cross, J.P. Nagara 1st, 2, 3rd 4th and 6th Phases, Bannerghatta Road, K.R. Layout 15th Cross, Rose Garden, Sarakki Garden, Sarakki Gate, Sangam Circle, 47th Cross, Jayanagar 8th Block Artyana Nagar, Jayanagar 4th and 5th Blocks.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated August 10, we have a story on circular economy start-ups from Bengaluru that are trying to find a business model that is profitable and, at the same time, kinder to the planet.

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (August 10, Thursday), the following articles are available:

- Can small modular nuclear reactors help India achieve net zero? **bit.ly/reactorspower**
- India takes first step to remove animals from drug-testing process **bit.ly/drugtestinganimal**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Police working with govt. to incentivise public transport: Police Commissioner

Senior police officials suggest companies should promote buspooling and also open up their premises for thoroughfare to ease congestion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of traffic jam on Kempegowda International Airport Road in Bengaluru.

Pointing out that parking is expensive in London to disincentivise private transport and that nowhere in the world is parking free, City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said the police are working with the government to come up with solutions that can incentivise public transport.

He, along with Joint Commissioner of Police (Bengaluru Traffic) M.N. Anucheth, DCP Whitefield S. Gireesh and other police officials, was participating in an interaction with IT-BT companies on the Outer Ring Road on Wednesday.

This was a part of Samparka Divasa, an outreach programme preceding Karnataka Home Minister G. Parameshwara's meeting with the organisations.

Companies' suggestions

In the meeting, the companies suggested enhancing the BMTC fleet, encouraging public transport, stricter enforcement of traffic rules, and strategic re-positioning of bus stands to ease traffic along the city's tech corridor. Pointing out that other Indian cities like Delhi have adopted measures including smart signalling, auto challaning and banning of trucks on city roads during the daytime, company representatives requested officials to consider adopting similar measures to ease traffic and congestion during peak hours.

It was also pointed out that the city's public transport was facing a demand and capacity mismatch. Representatives wondered if Bengaluru could adopt solutions similar to those adopted by Singapore and London, where measures have been taken to disincentivise private transport. Other issues, such as parking heavy vehicles on service roads, blocking the movement of other vehicles and ongoing construction along roads leading to airport in the name of road widening were also flagged.

Public transport

Admitting that increased use of public transport would solve several problems, Mr. Dayananda pointed out that even a completed Metro project would have a very limited impact on the traffic given its carriage capacity would be only 5-6 lakh. BMTC on the other hand transports 40-50 lakh people every day.

"More and more stress on public transport is the solution and also total democratisation of public spaces. The ones who are making opinions on traffic congestion travel in SUVs and cause congestion. Whereas the most vulnerable person is the pedestrian... Another irony of traffic is that every person thinks the other person is responsible for the problems. Everybody thinks rules apply to others," he said.

While pointing out that smart ticketing and smart challaning is already in place in Bengaluru, they also admitted that the BMTC fleet needs to be enhanced. "There are certain roads in Bengaluru where we have banned BMTC from entering. We must be the only city in the world where public transport is banned to allow private vehicles. These are some of the contradictions we are facing," Mr. Dayananda said.

Carpooling

The officials suggested that companies can think along the lines of carpooling or even buspooling. "You have to allow thoroughfare for the public through the premises. If there is congestion, then we have to open up. There are lots of things that we can do together," Mr. Dayananda said.

Responding to the suggestion that companies should be allowed to upload footage from CCTV to the Public Eye app and not just from phones, Mr. Anuchet said the team was working with the ITMS system. "Ideally, we would like footage to be sent to us. Next step is automated enforcement," he said.

Officials also noted that efforts to identify bus stops closer to traffic junctions were already on and they were working with the authorities concerned to shift them to better locations.

Aadi Krithigai festival

Devotees carrying a 'Kavadi' - offerings to Lord Muruga - at the Sri Subrahmanyeshwara Swamy Temple in Bengaluru on Wednesday.
K. MURALI KUMAR

Two children run over by speeding goods vehicle

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two children aged five and eight were killed and three others injured when a speeding goods vehicle ran over them while they were returning from tuitions on the outskirts of Ramanagara on Wednesday.

The deceased have been identified as Rohith, 5, and Shalini, 8. The other three children identified as Suchith, Gouthami and Lekhana escaped with minor injuries.

According to the police, the incident occurred around 7 p.m. when the children were going home from tuitions. The driver of the vehicle coming from Magadi was allegedly driving in a rash manner.

The driver soon abandoned the vehicle and fled the scene. Passers-by rushed the injured children to a nearby hospital where the doctors declared two of them as brought dead.

Police officials rushed to the spot and seized the vehicle. Efforts are on to track down the accused.

161 of Karnataka's elephants sighted in private lands: Census

Approximately 18% of the elephant population have been located outside of the Protected Areas network. FILE PHOTO

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Of the 6,395 estimated elephant population in Karnataka in 2023, 161 pachyderms were sighted within private lands such as coffee estates, says the interim report on Asian Elephant population and demography estimates - 2023.

The report was released by Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre on Wednesday ahead of World Elephant Day observed on August 12.

"Out of the total estimated elephant population of 6,395 for Karnataka in 2023, of which about 161 individuals were sighted within private lands, such as coffee estates. These private lands may serve as additional habitats for elephants, but may also pose challenges for conservation and human-wildlife coexistence," the report stated.

Protected areas

The report said approximately 18% of the elephant population, equivalent to nearly 953 elephants, were located outside of the Protected Areas (PA) network. The report added that the remaining estimated 792 elephants outside PA were sighted within the Reserved Forest areas of the respective forest divisions.

"These Reserved Forests are not part of the formal PA network but may still offer some level of protection and natural habitats for elephants," the report added.

It further said that conservation efforts should consider the needs of elephants in both types of habitats (PA and non-PAs) to ensure their long-term survival and coexistence with human communities.

In reference to the findings by the Census that 161 elephants were sighted on private lands like coffee estates, the Forest Minister said his department would give priority to preventing man-animal conflicts.

He said various measures, including building a rail barricade, erecting electric fences and setting up additional elephant task forces were being initiated to end man-animal-conflict.

Sale of beer of one brand bottled on July 15 stopped

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

The Excise Department (Bengaluru Urban district) has issued a notification withholding the sale of beer of one brand bottled on July 15 after it was found unsafe for consumption. The order, issued on August 2, stated that sediments were formed in those bottles on that date at a brewery of United Breweries Limited (UBL).

According to a senior official in the department, over 11,000 bottles were part of the batch. The department has directed Karnataka State Beverages Corporation Limited licence holders and Retail Vend of Beer (RVB) to immediately stop the sale of the two products bottled on July 15.

S.L. Rajendra Prasad, Additional Commissioner, said an investigation team has also been formed by the department to analyse samples from the batch further. "The UBL has admitted the presence of sediment in one brand, and it has requested further analysis in the second brand. The department will arrive at a further decision once analysis is complete," he said.

Mr. Prasad said that breweries manufacturing beer have to provide samples from every batch. Chemists in the department run tests to check whether the liquor is safe for consumption. In the batch bottled on July 15, there was some variation in yeast, which may have resulted in the formation of sediments.

Another senior official said although the beer was bottled on July 15, the presence of sediments was detected on July 28.

UBL statement

A spokesperson of United Breweries Ltd. said, "United Breweries Ltd. was notified of a slight haze in a small percentage of bottles from an approved batch of Kingfisher Ultra beer produced on July 15 at one of our breweries. While the haze isn't a health risk, we're addressing concerns by collaborating with authorities."

Curtailment of metro services on Purple Line extended till Aug. 11

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The curtailment of metro services on the Purple Line of Namma Metro for signalling and other related work has been extended till August 11.

To expedite the construction activities between Baiyappanahalli and K.R. Pura, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited previously declared a temporary suspension of metro services from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. between Baiyappanahalli and S.V. Road Metro Stations, as well as K.R. Pura to Whitefield (Kadugodi). The suspension was effective until Wednesday. The BMRCL said in a release on Wednesday, "To complete the works, the curtailment of train services is further extended on August 10 and 11. During this period, the train services are available between S.V. Road and Kengeri metro stations." The statement added that to facilitate signalling and associated tasks along the Kengeri to Challaghatta stretch (on Mysuru Road), trains on August 14 will be operated only between Baiyapanahhali and Vijayanagar metro stations from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. and no metro services will be available between Kengeri and Vijayanagar metro stations during these hours.

The curtailment of services is to facilitate various ongoing work. FILE PHOTO

After 7 a.m., regular train service will be available between Baiyyappanahalli and Kengeri metro stations and also between Krishnarajapura and Whitefield stations till the end of services up to 11 p.m.

There will be no changes on the Green Line services, the BMRCL added.

Man kills friend in a drunken brawl

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 27-year-old man crushed his friend to death during a drunken brawl, went home to sleep and realised his crime the next morning before rushing to Kengeri police to surrender.

The police were shocked when the accused Amanullah walked into the station to confess that he had killed Chethan, 21, the previous night. The police along with the accused went to Kommaghatta ground to find Chethan lying dead in a pool of blood with a stone nearby.

Probe revealed that the duo was drinking partners and used to fight over trivial rows.

Police on the lookout for over 40 Bangladeshi nationals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after the arrest of three Bangladeshi nationals by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), officials alleged that the accused were running a racket of helping others to cross the porous borders and also getting them placements for odd jobs in and around the city.

Inspector Gajendra Singh Chouhan, who tracked down Khaleel Chaprasi and his father-in-law Abdul Khader, told the police that he was not alone and there were over 43 Bangladeshi nationals who crossed the border with him in 2011 and are working in and around Bellandur.

The police arrested Adul khadir Talukdar who was not only helping his countrymen to cross porous borders but also running placement services in Bengaluru and other metro cities across India.

Mohammed Zahid, another Bangladeshi national arrested, allegedly told the police that he had paid ₹ 20,000 to an agent identified as Dulal to cross the porous border and reach Bengaluru where he was put on to Talukdar.

So far, all the 43 Bangladeshi nationals have been identified and efforts are on to track them down, a police officer said.

India takes first step to remove animals from drug-testing

Every drug in the market goes through a long journey of tests designed to check whether it can treat the disease for which it was created and whether it has any harmful effects. For a long time, the first step was to test the candidate molecule in at least two animal species. This could change.

Surat Parvatam

An amendment to the New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules (2023), recently passed by the Government of India, aims at stopping the use of animals in research, especially in drug testing. The amendment authorises researchers to instead use non-animal and human-relevant methods, including technologies like 3D organoids, organs-on-chip, and advanced computational methods, to test the safety and efficacy of new drugs.

An amendment to the New Drugs and Clinical Trial Rules (2023), recently passed by the Indian government, aims at avoiding the use of animals in research, especially in drug testing. Representative photo. AP

Current drug-development pipeline

Every drug in the market goes through a long journey of tests, each designed to check whether it can treat the disease for which it was created and whether it has any unintended harmful effects. For a long time, the first step of this process has been to test the candidate molecule in at least two animal species: a rodent (mouse or rat) and a non-rodent, such as canines and primates.

However, humans are more complex creatures, and biological processes and their responses often vary from person to person as well, based on factors such as age, sex, pre-existing diseases, genetics, diet, etc. – and a lab-bred animal species reared in controlled conditions may not fully capture the human response to a drug.

This 'mismatch' between the two species is reflected in the famously high failure-rate of the drug development process. Despite increasing investment in the pharmaceutical sector, most drugs that cleared the animal-testing stage fail at the stage of human clinical trials, which come towards the end of the pipeline.

Alternative testing modes

The limitations of the conventional testing process, beginning with animals, have led an increasing number of researchers to focus on systems that do a better job of capturing the intricacies of human biology and predicting humans' responses.

In the last few decades, several technologies have been developed using human cells or stem cells. These include millimetre-sized three-dimensional cellular structures that mimic specific organs of the body, called "organoids" or "mini-organs".

Another popular technology is the "organ-on-a-chip": they are AA-battery-sized chips lined with human cells connected to microchannels, to mimic blood flow inside the body. These systems capture several aspects of human physiology, including tissue-tissue interactions and physical and chemical signals inside the body.

Researchers have also used additive manufacturing techniques for more than two decades. In 2003, researchers developed the first inkjet bioprinter by modifying a standard inkjet printer. Several innovations in the last decade now allow a 3D bioprinter to 'print' biological tissues using human cells and fluids as 'bio-ink'.

Such technologies, researchers say, are bringing us closer to recreating a human tissue or organ system in the laboratory.

These systems promise to reshape drug-design and -development. Since they can be built using patient-specific cells, they can also be used to personalise drug-tests.

Status of regulations worldwide

How global regulatory frameworks are designed will play an important role in determining whether researchers will adopt non-animal methods to test the effect and potential side-effects of new drug candidates.

In 2021, the European Union passed a resolution on an action plan to facilitate transition towards technologies that don't use animals in research, regulatory testing, and education. The U.S. passed the FDA Modernization Act 2.0 in December 2022, allowing researchers to use these systems to test the safety and efficacy of new drugs.

In the same month, South Korea introduced a Bill called 'Vitalization of Development, Dissemination, and Use of Alternatives to Animal Testing Methods'. In June 2023, Canada amended its Environmental Protection Act to replace, reduce or refine the use of vertebrate animals in toxicity testing.

In March 2023, the Indian government embraced these systems in the drug-development pipeline by amending the New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rules 2019.

It did so after inviting comments from the people and in consultation with the Drug Technical Advisory Board, the statutory body that advises Central and State governments on drug-related technical matters.

Science challenges

But is India ready to exploit this technology?

One problem is that developing an organ-on-a-chip system typically requires multidisciplinary knowledge. This means expertise in *cell biology* to recreate the cellular behaviour in the lab; *materials science* to find the right material to ensure that the chip does not interfere with biological processes; *fluid dynamics* to mimic blood flow inside the microchannels; *electronics* to integrate biosensors that can measure pH, oxygen etc.in the chip; *engineering* to design the chip; and *pharmacology* and *toxicology* to interpret action of the drugs in the chips.

"It's a truly interdisciplinary endeavour and needs focused training and human-resource building, which is lacking in the country at present," Abhijit Majumder, an associate professor of chemical engineering at IIT-Bombay, said at a June 10 meeting organised by the Centre for Predictive Human Model Systems and Humane Society International India (*the author is affiliated with the latter*).

"We need to create one or more institutes like the Wyss Institute in Boston, which is a dedicated centre that focuses on innovations that emulate human biology," he added.

The meeting hosted a discussion involving members of industry, academia, government, and regulatory bodies, on the topic of implementing new human-based technologies.

To enable this crosstalk between different disciplines, technology developers in academia and industry have proposed creating a 'Centre for Excellence' in India, akin to the Wyss Institute, to bring together scientists and others with a wide range of expertise to build preclinical human models.

Another important problem concerns the resources needed for research.

"Most of the reagents, cell-culture related materials and instruments for these technologies are currently imported from the U.S., Europe, and Japan," Prajakta Dandekar, an assistant professor at the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai, whose lab is developing a skin-on-a-chip model, said. "I think that there exists a huge gap and hence opportunity in several diverse areas related to cell culture, material science and electronics, to develop an end-to-end ecosystem in India".

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>
> **ABHIJIT MAJUMDER**
> Associate professor, IIT-Bombay

Validation question

To manage the complexity of recreating human tissues and organs in the petri dish, researchers often minimise the number of components required to simulate the disease being investigated. This means, for example, there can be no 'standard' or 'universal' liver-on-a-chip to study all liver diseases.

One lab may create a system with only liver cells, while another lab attempting to study the immune system and liver may also incorporate immune cells in its liver-on-a-chip. So regulators sometimes express concerns about variability in the data arising from differences in lab-to-lab protocols and expertise.

"It is important to bring out guidelines on the minimal quality criterion and standards for these systems," Indumathi Mariappan, whose lab at the L.V. Prasad Eye Hospital, Hyderabad, has developed cornea organoids, said. "Also, the current guidelines on animal testing requirements must be re-evaluated and revised, considering newer developments in cell-based and gene-editing based therapeutics."

(Surat Parvatam is senior strategist, Humane Society International India.)

Packets of Wegovy move along a conveyor at the Novo Nordisk production site in Hillerod, Denmark, June 12, 2023. BLOOMBERG

The obesity drugs waiting to hit the market

Reuters

Novo Nordisk said a large study had shown its highly effective obesity drug Wegovy also had a clear cardiovascular benefit, boosting the Danish drugmaker's hopes of moving beyond Wegovy's image as a lifestyle drug.

Novo, Eli Lilly and Pfizer are among the dozens of drugmakers chasing an up to $100 billion market of obesity treatments, which could also include oral options in the future.

The following is a list of companies targeting the next big blockbuster opportunity:

Novo Nordisk said a large study had shown its highly effective obesity drug,

Novo, Eli Lilly and Pfizer are among the dozens of drugmakers chasing an up to $100 billion market of obesity treatments, which could also include oral options in the future.

Wegovy, also had a clear cardiovascular benefit

In June, the drugmaker reported late-stage trial data from a high-dose oral version of its drug, semaglutide, helping overweight or obese adults lose 15% of their body weight, in line with recent results for other experimental pills.

The company also has an older product, Saxenda, approved in 2014, but Wegovy is considered safer and more effective.

Eli Lilly reported last year that diabetes drug Mounjaro showed a 22.5% weight loss in people who were obese or overweight but did not have diabetes. Mounjaro is awaiting U.S. regulatory approval for the treatment of obesity.

It said a mid-stage trial of its next-generation obesity drug candidate, a once-weekly injection of retatrutide, showed it led to a weight loss of up to 24.2% after 48 weeks.

Pfizer said it was scrapping the development of its once-a-day pill on concerns about liver safety, but will continue developing its other pill, the twice-daily danuglipron.

The company expects to finalise plans for a late-stage program for danuglipron by the year-end and is also developing a daily version of that drug. In May, danuglipron showed results in weight loss similar to that of Novo's semaglutide.

Amgen's experimental obesity drug, AMG133, showed a mean weight loss of 14.5% after 12 weeks of treatment at the highest monthly dose.

Altimmune said in March its drug, pemvidutide, helped reduce weight by more than 10% on average in a mid-stage trial. However, patients also experienced nausea and vomiting of mild and moderate severity.

Viking Therapeutics Inc's drug, VK2735, showed up to 6% reduction in mean weight in an early-stage study. The company plans to test higher doses of the drug over a longer treatment window in a mid-stage trial.

Zealand Pharma, of Denmark, and Boehringer Ingelheim's experimental obesity treatment achieved up to 14.9% weight loss in a mid-stage trial on August 9.

Opko Health has completed a mid-stage trial of its obesity drug, pegapamodutide, which it expects will have fewer side effects.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Having a closer look at conjunctivitis as cases rise

Zubeda Hamid

QUESTION 1

Conjunctivitis is an inflammation of the conjunctiva. Which of the following statements is true about what the conjunctiva is? a) A thin layer of tissue that covers the optic nerve; b) A transparent membrane that lines the eyelid and eyeball; c) A lining on the passage of the tear duct

QUESTION 2

Name the two types of conjunctivitis that can spread from one person to another.

QUESTION 3

You can't get conjunctivitis by looking into the eyes of someone who has it. According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, "you must _____ someone or something to become infected." Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 4

Which of these is not a symptom of conjunctivitis? a) Redness and itchiness in one or both eyes; b) A gritty feeling, discharge and a crust that may form in the night; c) A red bump that forms on or inside your eyelid; d) Sensitivity to light.

QUESTION 5

For how long is conjunctivitis contagious?

Answers to August 8 quiz:

1. First milk produced by mammary glands after giving birth – **Ans: Colostrum (bonus: Kharvas)**
2. Only arachnid species whose offspring depend on milk for nutrition – **Ans: Toxeus magnus**
3. Something the male body has sans any practical use – **Ans: Nipples**
4. Sole mammal subclass that has mammary glands without teats – **Ans: Prototheria**
5. Event and year when the pink ribbons were first distributed – **Ans: Komen New York City Race for the Cure, 1991**

Visual: **Philip Strax**

First contact: Dishanta Adhikari | Prashant Kalbender | Pratibha Behera | Ritu Singh | Poulami Ghosh

Treatment for conjunctivitis depends on its cause. Name the form of conjunctivitis shown in the image above – the most common – and the way to treat it. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

#TechnologyForSustainableGrowth

LARSEN & TOUBRO

L&T will move from Strength to Strength In Service of Nation and Society

Address by **Mr. A. M. Naik** | **Group Chairman**

78th Annual General Meeting | August 9, 2023

Dear Shareholders,

This is my 25th AGM, after I took over at the helm of L&T. It will be the last and final occasion when I have the privilege of chairing the proceedings.

My statement and observations about the economy and the Company's performance have already been published in the Integrated Annual Report, and have been hosted on L&T's website.

I will therefore take the opportunity at this milestone AGM to journey back in time and place to where it all began.

It was nearly six decades ago that I first walked through the gates of Larsen & Toubro with an application in my hand and a dream in my heart. Larsen & Toubro had been my dream career destination in college because it fulfilled my two preconditions – I wanted to join an engineering company and it had to be an organisation that contributes to building the nation.

With L&T, both my requirements converged. Although I could not join immediately, destiny would not be denied, and soon I found myself as a Junior Engineer in L&T.

Money and position did not mean much to me then – and it still does not. But my work was being recognised and I rose rapidly up the career path. In 1999, I was appointed the CEO of L&T.

Blueprint for Transformation

Here I was - the head of the company I had dreamed about - and now in a position to reshape that very dream. We initiated a process to co-create a Vision Statement for the Company - for the first time in its history. It set the compass for the direction which the Company would take. It also changed its growth trajectory and its velocity. We also drew up a strategic roadmap which ensured that we periodically re-examine our portfolio through the lens of emerging market realities. It was a comprehensive blueprint for transformation.

Global Benchmarking

We added a new term to the lexicon of the Company – global benchmarking. Being the best in India was no longer enough – it had to be as good, if not better, than the best in the world. Looking back, I now realise that we were making L&T future-ready. We had put 'Make in India' into practice decades before it became so widely known.

IT Vision

The seeds we sowed continue to bear fruit to this day. We had articulated an IT vision for the Company by transforming an internal wing of the parent company into a market-facing, customer-centric organisation – now known as LTIMindtree. We also carved out three related businesses from the parent company and formed a stand-alone company – L&T Technology Services. Their expertise across advanced technology platforms enables your Company today to contribute significantly to the Prime Minister's Digital India Programme, and build the Smart Cities of the future.

Entrepreneurial Inputs

Our association with infrastructure goes back over seven decades. But it was only after 2006, when Construction began to be more closely integrated with the rest of the Company, that we could scale up everything we did. In just 11 years, the infrastructure business grew approximately 20 times and profits went up 45 times.

Beyond Boundaries

Our emphasis on exports took both Brand L&T and Brand India beyond our shores. This involved not just a change in markets, but a change in mindset. We began to establish our footprint across geographies. Overseas revenues today account for nearly one-third of your Company's total turnover. All this is the outcome of the international thrust that we initiated in 2000.

Nation Building

Side-by-side with value creation for shareholders, we never lost sight of our overarching goal – we are here to serve the nation. Today, we are recognised as nation builders and as private-sector partners in strategic areas of defence, nuclear power and aerospace.

Think of all the iconic projects that make every Indian proud – from the Statue of Unity to Chandrayaan, from the world's largest cricket stadium to the Bullet Train, from Mumbai's coastal road project to the trans-harbour project connecting Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. L&T is part of them all – thanks to the impetus that we provided when we decided to restructure our business portfolio and focus on our core.

Constantly Adding Value

We also put a new mantra in everybody's minds – constantly add value in everything we do. The results speak for themselves. Between 1999 and 2023, Group revenues grew from ₹ 5,000 crore to nearly ₹ 1,83,000 crore on a like-to-like basis. This surge, achieved largely through organic growth, has few parallels in corporate India. In the same period, market cap climbed from around ₹ 4,000 crore to around ₹ 3,74,000 crore at a CAGR of nearly 20%. This has enabled the Company to issue bonus four times to our shareholders, in addition to the handsome dividends which they receive every year. So, one share 20 years ago is equivalent to 9 shares as of today.

HR - the Driving Force

We identified HR as the driving force of profitable growth and qualitative change. From an environment that was hampered by the syndrome of seniority, we changed it to one of pure meritocracy. We set up institutions of learning - a Leadership Development Academy in Lonavala and an Institute of Project Management in Vadodara. Our 7-Step Leadership Programme, culminating in personal mentoring by me, has helped us build a robust leadership pipeline that will serve the Company far into the future.

Preserving L&T's Professional Character

In the latter part of 2001, the unique professional character of your Company was threatened as it faced the imminent possibility of being taken over by a conglomerate. The prospects were bleak: L&T, as you know it today, would have ceased to exist.

It took astute leadership to turn conflict into a win-win solution. The conglomerate obtained what it was looking for – the cement business, and your Company divested a product line that we intended to exit anyway. This had other positive outcomes too: formation of the 'employees foundation' ring-fenced your Company against future challenges; your Company became AAA rated; reduction in equity enhanced value; and stock options boosted employee morale. The L&T Employee Trust now owns 14 per cent of the Company, and to that extent, we have ring-fenced L&T against take-over attempts.

Succession Planning

I believe sound succession planning is imperative for the sustainability of organisations. Mentoring leadership is therefore my prime focus. I had identified Mr. Subrahmanyan nearly ten years ago, and have mentored members of the current Executive Board. Early this year, I had announced that I will be stepping down as Non-Executive Chairman of L&T, effective September 30, 2023, and Mr. Subrahmanyan will take over as Chairman and Managing Director. This is the culmination of the succession plan drawn up by me.

In Conclusion

As I look back now from the vantage point of history, I must say that I consider myself uniquely privileged to have had the opportunity to serve, lead and transform this great Company.

All through this long journey, my family has been an immense source of support and encouragement. My wife has been my pillar of strength. Without her, without the sacrifices that she made, I could not have achieved whatever I did.

I also put on record my thanks to all of you shareholders. Your queries have been stimulating and your comments delight the heart.

My life and legacy are L&T, and I am happy and content that I will be leaving it in very capable hands to continue its exemplary record of service to the nation and society.

My personal mantra has been Devotion, with Passion, Conviction and Commitment. Devotion is when you worship your God in a temple. My *mandir,* my temple is Larsen & Toubro. I will always cherish the recollections of how all of you contributed to making this journey of mine so memorable, so fulfilling and so joyous.

Now, at this historic AGM before all of you, we will be performing a symbolic ceremony of 'handing-over' of the L&T flag. I am confident that Mr. Subrahmanyan is the one who will keep the L&T flag flying high.

Thank You.

Jai Hind!

CBMC/SSP/23-08-08

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Increase in India's toy exports from FY19 to FY23, says Minister

60 in percentage. Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Som Parkash informed Parliament that toy exports from the country increased from $203.46 million in 2018-19 to $325.72 million in 2022-23 — a rise of 60%, while imports dipped 57% from $371.69 million to $158.7 million. PTI

Number of children of refugees enrolled in Mizoram schools

8,119 Mizoram Minister Lalchhandama Ralte also said that these students are receiving free school uniforms and mid-day meals. Of the total, 6,366 students were from Myanmar, 250 from Bangladesh and 1,503 were children of people displaced from Manipur. PTI

Additional amount of wheat to be sold by Union Government

50 in lakh tonnes. The Union government announced that it will also sell 25 lakh tonnes of rice from the central pool in the open market under the Open Market Sale Scheme to boost domestic availability and contain rising prices of these two key staples. PTI

GST levied on online gaming, casinos and horse race clubs

28 in percentage. The Cabinet approved changes to the GST laws to levy new tax on the full face value of bets. The amendments to the Central GST and Integrated GST acts, which were approved by the GST Council, will be introduced in the monsoon session of Parliament, ending on August 11. PTI

Surplus earned by India's cricket board from 2017-18 to 2021-22

1.5 in $ billion. The Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) earnings were listed in Parliament which revealed a revenue of $919 million and expenditure of $370 million. The BCCI is one of the world's most lucrative governing bodies. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Can SMRs help India achieve net zero?

What are small nuclear modular reactors? What differentiates them from conventional nuclear power plants? How can they contribute to decarbonisation? How will they affect India's demand for and use of uranium? What legal and regulatory changes do they entail?

EXPLAINER

R. Srikanth

The story so far:

The world's quest to decarbonise itself is guided, among other things, by the UN Sustainable Development Goal 7: "to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all". Since the world still depends on fossil fuels for 82% of its energy supply, decarbonising the power sector is critical; the share of electricity in final energy consumption will also increase by 80%-150% by 2050. The recent uptick in coal consumption in Europe, despite the increase in solar and wind power, suggests that reliable, 24/7 low-carbon electricity resources are critical to ensure the deep decarbonisation of power generation, along with grid stability and energy security. Small modular reactors – a type of nuclear reactor – can be helpful to India in this regard.

What are the challenges of decarbonisation?

The transition from coal-fired power generation to clean energy poses major challenges, and there is a widespread consensus among policymakers in several countries that solar and wind energy alone will not suffice to provide affordable energy for everyone. In decarbonised electricity systems with a significant share of renewable energy, the addition of at least one firm power-generating technology can improve grid reliability and reduce costs.

According to the International Energy Agency, the demand for critical minerals like lithium, nickel, cobalt, and rare earth elements, required for clean-energy production technologies, is likely to increase by up to 3.5 times by 2030. This jump poses several global challenges, including the large capital investments to develop new mines and processing facilities. The environmental and social impacts of developing several new mines and plants in China, Indonesia, Africa, and South America within a short time span, coupled with the fact that the top three mineral-producing and mineral-processing nations control 50-100% of the current global extraction and processing capacities, pose geopolitical and other risks.

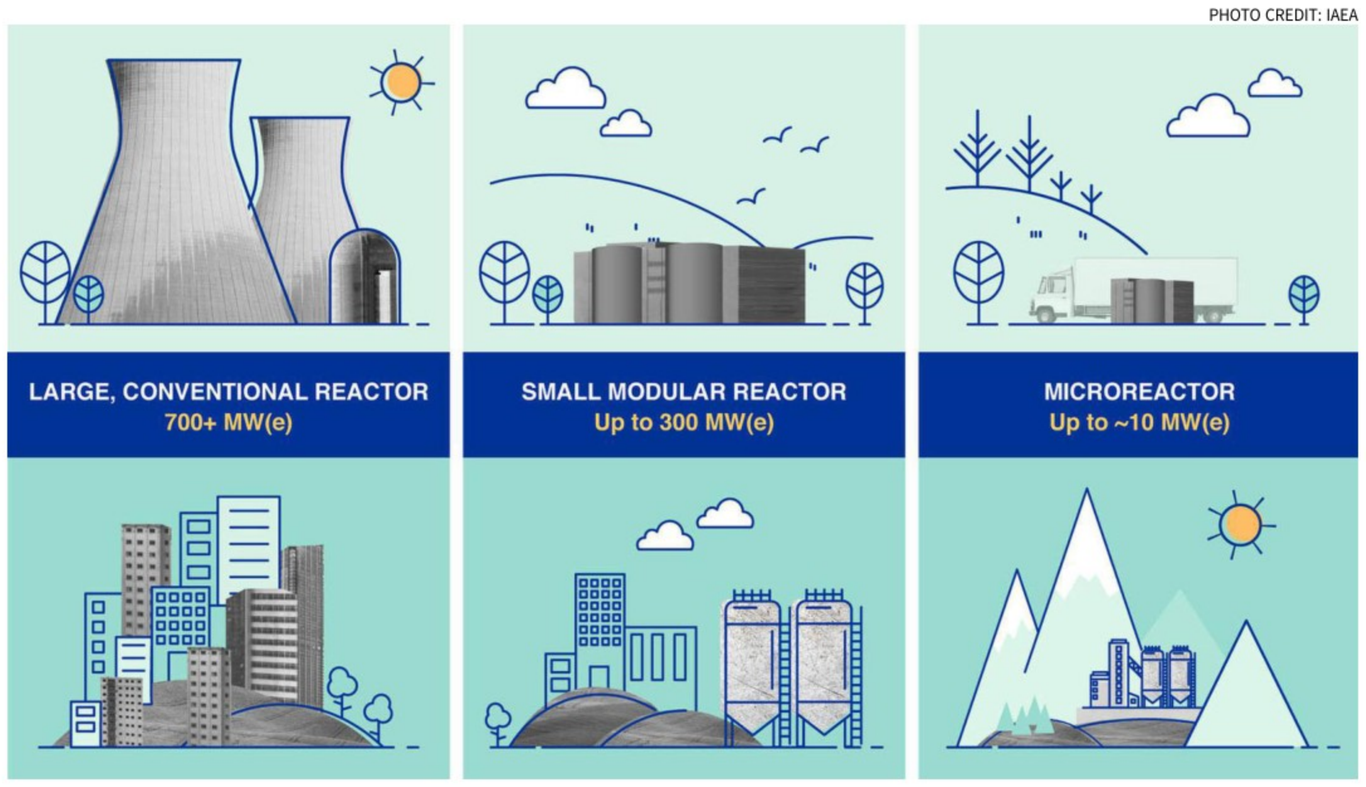
What are the issues with nuclear power?

Nuclear power plants (NPPs) generate 10% of the world's electricity and help it avoid 180 billion cubic metres of natural gas demand and 1.5 billion tonnes of CO_2 emissions every year. Any less nuclear power could make the world's journey towards net-zero more challenging and more expensive.

NPPs are efficient users of land and their grid integration costs are lower than those associated with variable renewable energy (VRE) sources because NPPs generate power 24x7 in all kinds of weather. Nuclear power also provides valuable co-benefits like high-skill jobs in technology, manufacturing, and operations.

This said, conventional NPPs have generally suffered from time and cost overruns. As an alternative, several countries are developing small modular reactors (SMRs) – nuclear reactors with a maximum capacity of 300 MW – to complement conventional NPPs. SMRs can be installed in decommissioned thermal power plant sites by repurposing existing infrastructure, thus sparing the host country from having to acquire more land and/or displace people beyond the existing site boundary.

PHOTO CREDIT: IAEA



What are the advantages of SMRs?

SMRs are designed with a smaller core damage frequency (the likelihood that an accident will damage the nuclear fuel) and source term (a measure of radioactive contamination) compared to conventional NPPs. They also include enhanced seismic isolation for more safety. SMR designs are also simpler than those of conventional NPPs and include several passive safety features, resulting in a lower potential for the uncontrolled release of radioactive materials into the environment. The amount of spent nuclear fuel stored in an SMR project will also be lower than that in a conventional NPP.

Studies have found that SMRs can be safely installed and operated at several brownfield sites that may not meet the more stringent zoning requirements for conventional NPPs. The power-plant organisation can also undertake community work, as the Nuclear Power Corporation did in Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu, before the first unit was built.

Accelerating the deployment of SMRs under international safeguards, by implementing a coal-to-nuclear transition at existing thermal power-plant sites, will take India closer to net-zero and improve energy security because uranium resources are not as concentrated as reserves of critical minerals.

Most land-based SMR designs require low-enriched uranium, which can be supplied by all countries that possess uranium mines and facilities for such enrichment if the recipient facility is operating according to international standards. Since SMRs are mostly manufactured in a factory and assembled on site, the potential for time and cost overruns is also lower. Further, serial manufacture of SMRs can reduce costs by simplifying plant design to facilitate more efficient regulatory approvals and experiential learning with serial manufacturing.

Since SMRs are designed to operate for more than 40 years, the levelised cost of electricity is $60-90 per MWh. The figure is expected to drop rapidly after 2035, by when the SMRs ordered by a number of east-European countries from NuScale and GE Hitachi are expected to come online. The costs will decline steepest for India when reputed companies manufacture SMRs. This at least was the reason SMRs were included in the U.S.-India joint statement after Prime Minister Narendra Modi met U.S. President Joe Biden in June 2023.

What is the need for an efficient regulatory regime?

This said, an efficient regulatory regime comparable to that in the civil aviation sector – which has more stringent safety requirements – is important if SMRs are to play a meaningful role in decarbonising the power sector. This can be achieved if all countries that accept nuclear energy direct their respective regulators to cooperate amongst themselves and with the International Atomic Energy Agency to harmonise their regulatory requirements and expedite statutory approvals for SMRs based on standard, universal designs.

How can SMRs be integrated with the national grid?

India's Central Electricity Authority (CEA) projects that the generation capacity of coal-based thermal power plants (TPPs) in India must be increased to 259,000 MW by 2032 from the current 212,000 MW, while enhancing the generation capacity of VRE sources to 486,000 MW from 130,000 MW. Integrating this power from VRE sources with the national grid will require additional energy storage – to the tune of 47,000 MW/236 GWh with batteries and 27,000 MW from hydroelectric facilities.

The CEA also projects that TPPs will provide more than half of the electricity generated in India by 2031-2032 while VRE sources and NPPs will contribute 35% and 4.4%, respectively. Since India has committed to become net-zero by 2070, the country's nuclear power output needs a quantum jump. Since the large investments required for NPP expansion can't come from the government alone, attracting investments from the private sector (in PPP mode) is important to decarbonise India's energy sector.

What are the legal and regulatory changes required?

The Atomic Energy Act will need to be amended to allow the private sector to set up SMRs. To ensure safety, security, and safeguards, control of nuclear fuel and radioactive waste must continue to lie with the Government of India. The government will also have to enact a law to create an independent, empowered regulatory board with the expertise and capacity to oversee every stage of the nuclear power generation cycle.

The security around SMRs must remain under government control, while the Nuclear Power Corporation can operate privately-owned SMRs during the hand-holding process.

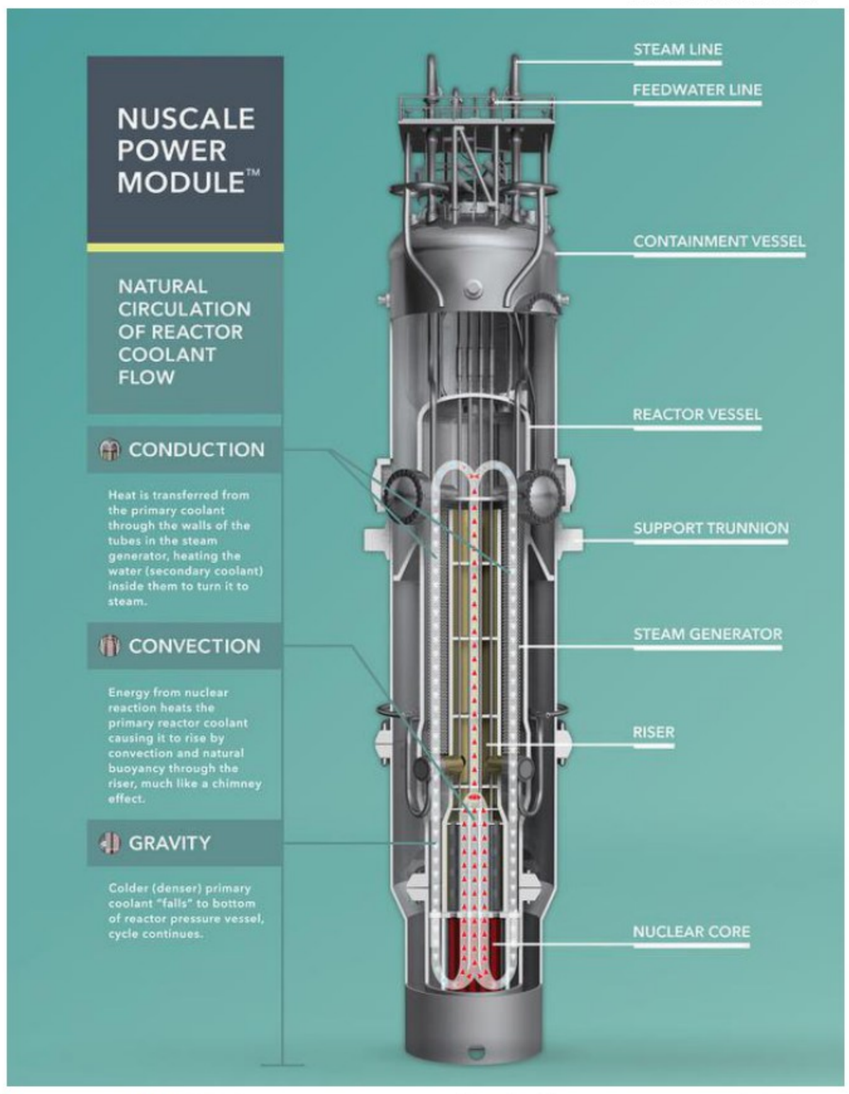
Finally, the Department of Atomic Energy must improve the public perception of nuclear power in India by better disseminating comprehensive environmental and public health data of the civilian reactors, which are operating under international safeguards, in India.

The author is professor and dean, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru.

THE GIST

- Conventional nuclear power plants often suffer from time and cost overruns. As an alternative, several countries are developing small modular reactors (SMRs) — nuclear reactors with a maximum capacity of 300 MW — to complement conventional NPPs.
- Studies have found that SMRs can be safely installed and operated at several brownfield sites that may not meet the more stringent zoning requirements for conventional NPPs.
- Most land-based SMR designs require low-enriched uranium, which can be supplied by all countries that possess uranium mines and facilities for such enrichment if the recipient facility is operating according to international standards. Since SMRs are mostly manufactured in a factory and assembled on site, the potential for time and cost overruns is also lower.

PHOTO CREDIT: NUSCALE


NUSCALE POWER MODULE™
NATURAL CIRCULATION OF REACTOR COOLANT FLOW
CONDUCTION
Heat is transferred from the primary coolant through the walls of the tubes in the steam generator, heating the water (secondary coolant) inside them to turn it to steam.
CONVECTION
Energy from nuclear reaction heats the primary reactor coolant causing it to rise by convection and natural buoyancy through the riser, much like a chimney effect.
GRAVITY
Colder (denser) primary coolant "falls" to bottom of reactor pressure vessel, cycle continues.
STEAM LINE
FEEDWATER LINE
CONTAINMENT VESSEL
REACTOR VESSEL
SUPPORT TRUNNION
STEAM GENERATOR
RISER
NUCLEAR CORE

e - Tender Notice
Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana,
Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association, Osmanabad
e- Tender Notice No. 28/2023-24 and 29 /2023-24

The Superintending Engineer, PMGSY, MRRDA, Aurangabad Region, Aurangabad invites the bids in electronic tendering system published on **https://mahatenders.gov.in** for Construction & Five Year maintenance of Roads Sanctioned Under ADB Total Packages - 08 (Total Road works -13) and works sanctioned Under R&D Total Packages - 04 (Total Road works- 08) in Osmanabad District.

Date of Sale & Submission starts from 10/08/2023 at 10.00 and 11.00 am respectively. Ends on 25.08.2023 at 17.30 and 17.00 pm. Respectively.

Further notification & Clarification will be published on website.

(Sd/-), **(Sd/-),**
(Vilas H. More) **(S. S. Bhagat)**
Executive Engineer (PMGSY), MAROA, Osmanabad **Superintending Engineer (PMGSY), MARDA, Aurangabad**
DGIPR/2023/2024/2719

Government of Karnataka
Zilla Panchayath Chamarajanagar
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICER, CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT, CHAMARAJANAGAR
Room no 312, District Complex Building, Chamarajanagar.
Ph No :08226-222421 Email : dhochamarajanagar@gmail.com

No:DHO/Cha/CV(2)/01/2023-24 Call-2 Dated: 03-08-2023

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is invited for Health Institutions under the District Health and Family Welfare Department, Chamarajanagar for the year 2023-24 for recruitment of 22-Pharmacists, 11-Junior Laboratory Technicians, 01-Data Entry Operator and 01-Service Engineer, total-35 posts through E-Procurement (www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in) in Two Cover system as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act (KTPP) 1999 Rules 2000.

1. Estimated Tender value: Rs.1,59,20,952/- 2. E.M.D. Rs.3,98,024/- 3. Starting Date of uploading Tender: 05-08-2023 4. Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tender: 19-08-2023 05:30 PM 5. Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid: 21-08-2023 11:00 AM

Sd/-District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Chamarajanagar District, Chamarajanagar
DIPR: CHANAGAR:92:2023-24

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex, Dr MH Marigowda Road, Bangalore – 560029
Tele: 080-25536789 Fax: 080-25536105 TIN: 29710050983
E-Mail: kmfengg@gmail.com / engg@kmf.coop

No. KMF/ENGG/NHMPP-CHOCOLATE/1721/2023-24 Date: 07.08.2023

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Karnataka Co-operative Milk Federation Ltd.,(KMF), Bangalore intends to establish the following:

1) "State of Art technology Chocolate Plant / Unit" of capacity 1 Ton per day expandable to 5 Tons per day at Nandini Hi-tech Mega Powder Plant, Kanva, Ramanagara.
2) "State of Art technology Aqua Mineral Water Plant" of capacity 1 Lakh litre per day expandable to 2 Lakh litre per day with Multi stacking facility of 5 lakh litre storage at Nandini Hi-tech Powder Plant, Channarayapatna. &
3) "State of Art technology Nutraceuticals Unit" at Nandini Hi-tech Powder Plant, Channarayapatna.

In this regard, KMF notify the EOI by inviting the prospective Chocolate, Aqua mineral water and Nutraceuticals equipments manufacturer / Suppliers / Consultants to participate.

Interested Firms / manufacturers / suppliers / consultants who have experienced in establishment of such type of Chocolate, Aqua mineral water and Nutraceuticals plants/unit can participate in EOI by submitting all the relevant documents in closed envelope addressed to Managing Director, KMF on or before 25.8.2023. Details of EOI and other information is available on KMF website: www.kmfnandini.coop. Also you may contact on phone No.080-26096888 for further details during office hours.

FOR KARNATAKA CO-OP. MILK FEDERATION LTD.,
Sd/-
Director (Engineering-2)

REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Office of the Regional Commissioner, Bengaluru Division, Revenue Department and Nodal Officer, Ex-Officio Secretary (Economic Offences)
2nd Floor, BMTC Building, K. H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 27. Ph.: 080-2210 9665 E-mail: reb27bangalore@gmail.com

No. : ADM(1)CR/01/2023-24 Date : 03-08-2023

TENDER NOTICE

The REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, BENGALURU DIVISION, REVENUE DEPARTMENT AND NODAL OFFICER, EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY (ECONOMIC OFFENCES) **(hereafter, RC Bangalore)** hereby invites tenders under e-tendering system from **Registered Manufacturers and Authorised Dealers in Karnataka** for supply of MATERIALS & STATIONERY FOR RC Bangalore, as detailed in Annexure-I of this Tender, as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000, there under **(Under Two Cover System). Only those who have supplied similar items (80% of the quantity of this tender) to Govt. Departments, Institutions, Autonomous Bodies in last 2 years need to apply. Those with Annual Turnover for Last Three years i.e., 2019-20, 2020-21 & 2021-22, not less than Rs. 20 Lakhs per annum or total cumulative turnover Rs. 50 Lakhs for Last Three Years are eligible to participate in this Tender.**

1) The Bidder is expected to carefully examine the specifications and terms & conditions of the Tender. Failure to furnish all information required in the Tender or submission of a bid not substantially responsive to the Tender in every respect will be at the Bidder's risk and may result in the rejection of the bid.
2) Tenderer / Bidder should submit the proposal on the **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** The first part will consist of Eligibility Proposal and the second part will consist of Financial Proposal. Complete bid document terms and conditions and tender form containing all the details have been published on the websites **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
3) Late submission of bids will not be permitted by the e-Tendering System.
4) Last minute submission of bids should be avoided. As such, Tenderer will not be responsible for any failures in submission of bids.
5) Incomplete or Conditional bids will be summarily rejected.
6) For any of the assistance regarding participation in the e-Tender contact ARC in RC Office, 24 Floor, BMTC Building, K.H. Road, Shanthinagar Bengaluru - 560 027, E-mail : rcb27bangalore@gmail.com.

Schedule of Events : 1) Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from Website : https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in : 08-08-2023, 2) Last Date for Queries on or before : 11-08-2023 till 5.00 p.m., 3) Per-Bid Meeting 14-08-2023 at 11.00 a.m., 4) Last Date for uploading of Tender in E-procurement Platform on or before : 21-08-2023 till 5.00 p.m., 5) Opening of Technical Bid : 24-08-2023 till 12.00 p.m., 6) Date of Original Document Verification : Will be done on the uploaded Documents at E-portal 25-08-2023, 7) Submission of Samples : 23-08-2023 at 11.00 a.m., 8) Opening of Financial Bid : Will be intimated. 9) Approximate Value of Tender : Rs. 12.00 Lakhs.

For any Query Contact : RC Office, 2nd Floor, BMTC Building, K. H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027. E-mail : rcb27bangalore @gmail.com. Phone : 080-2210 9665, 2210 9675,

Details regarding Tender Terms and Conditions are available of **E-procurement Portal : https://kppp.karnatak.gov.in / portal / portal-home.**

Sd/- Regional Commissioner,
Bengaluru Division, Revenue Department
And Nodal Officer, Ex-Officio Secretary
(Economic Offences)

DIPR/Urban/817/Manipal/2023-24

TAMILNADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Tamilnadu Undertaking)
No. 417, Pantheon Road, Chennai-600 008.
Phone: 044-2819 1890, 2819 0259
Website: www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in
E-Mail: gmdrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in, mngrpurdrug.tnmsc@tn.gov.in

Sealed Tenders are invited by the Tender Inviting Authority, Tamilnadu Medical Services Corporation Ltd., Chennai - 600008, from the bidders meeting the eligibility criteria indicated in the tender document for the supply of **Drugs to Sale Counter of TNMSC Ltd** for two years from the date of acceptance of the tender.

Sl. No	Description	e-Tender Reference	Tender Floating Period	e-Tender Submission Duration	Date and time of online opening of Technical Bids
1	Online Tender for the supply of **Drugs to Sale Counter of TNMSC Limited** under rate contract system for two years from the date of acceptance	e-013/M(P)/SALE/ TNMSC/2023, Dated. 09.08.2023	09.08.2023 at 4.00 PM to 23.08.2023 upto 4.00 PM	14.08.2023 at 10.00 AM to 23.08.2023 upto 4.00 PM	23.08.2023 at 5.00 PM

The tender document can be downloaded and the tender shall be submitted at **https://tntenders.gov.in.** The tender document can also be downloaded at **www.tnmsc.tn.gov.in** for reference purpose.

DIPR/4376/Tender/2023

Tender Inviting Authority / General Manager (Drugs)

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 - 2564568 / 5669 / 4537 / 4545)

ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए संक्षिप्त सूचना / BRIEF NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग द्वारा ऑनलाइन मद-दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। On behalf of the President of India, online item-rate tenders are invited through E-tendering for the following works.

कार्य का शीर्षक तथा ई-निविदा सूचना सं. / Title of work & E-Tender Notice No.	पी.ए.सी./P.A.C.
1. टर्ल्स,वीएसएससी, तुंबा में आरपीएफएफ के लिए वीटीएमसी मशीन रखने के लिए भवन का निर्माण **एस एच: प्राक्-अभियांत्रिकीकृत इस्पात संरचना** (सिविल कार्य) / Construction of building for housing VTMC machine for RPFF at TERLS, VSSC, Thumba SH: Pre-Engineered Steel Structure (Civil works), NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/12/2023-24 Dt. 08.08.2023	रु./Rs. 333.37 लाख/Lakhs
2. टर्ल्स,वीएसएससी, तुंबा में आरपीएफएफ के लिए वीटीएमसी मशीन रखने के लिए भवन का निर्माण **एस एच: मशीन नींव एवं आंबार नींव** (सिविल कार्य) / Construction of building for housing VTMC machine for RPFF at TERLS, VSSC, Thumba SH: Machine Foundation & Pile Foundation (Civil works), NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/13/2023-24 Dt. 08.08.2023	रु./Rs. 277.74 लाख/Lakhs
3.वीएसएससी के टर्ल्स कैंटीन का विस्तार हेतु विद्युत कार्य) / Electrical works for extension of TERLS canteen, VSSC, NIT No. VSSC/CMG/E01/11/2023-24 Dt. 08.08.2023	रु./Rs. 29.01 लाख/Lakhs
डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 09.08.2023, 10:00 बजे/hrs से/to दिनांक 22.08.2023, 23:00 बजे/hrs	

योग्यता मानदंड तथा अन्य ब्यौरों को पाने के लिए इच्छुक निविदाकार ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करते हुए विस्तृत सूचना (ई-एनआइटी) का अवलोकन करें, जिसे www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। / Interested tenderers may please refer detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (E-NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from website www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in.

Sd/- ग्रूप निदेशक / Group Director, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी / CMG, VSSC

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ
Email: dcydg123@gmail.com, ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08473–253700 : ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ 253701

ಸಂ/ಕಂ/ಅಟಲ್‌ಜೀ/01/2023–2024 ದಿನಾಂಕ:08.08.2023

–: ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ :–

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ನಿಯಮಗಳು 2000 ರಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಡೇಟಾ ಎಂಟ್ರಿ ಆಪರೇಟರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (Man Power Agency) ಯನ್ನು ಇ ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಗುರುತಿಸಲು, ಕೆ.ಸಿ–2ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್ ಸ್ವೀಕೃರಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08–08–2023 ರಂದು ಸಮಯ 01.00 ರಿಂದ 2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23–08–2023 ರಂದು ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 05–30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ 3) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25–08–2023 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ 4) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ್ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:29–08–2023 ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದ್ದು. ವಿವರ ಕೆಳಕಂಡತಡ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

ವಿವರ: Providing 42 Data Entry Operators for Atalji Janasnehi Kendras in Yadgir District

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/93/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2023–24

ಸಹಿ/– ಅಪರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ.

Government of Karnataka
GULBARGA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, KALABURAGI
(Autonomous Institution of Govt. of Karnataka)
E-mail:directorgimsgulbarga@gmail.com Phone No 08472-260252

No. GIMS/KLB/TENDER/Surgical/CR/19/2023-24/1093 Date: 09/08/2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)

Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi invites tender for eligible bidders in bid system (Techno-commercial Bid & Financial Bid) in e-procurement 2.0 mode for the SUPPLY OF **"Surgical Items" For Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences Hospital Kalaburagi.** Details are available in the site: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Last date and time for upload of e-tender in E-procurement platform as follows.
1) Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from website-https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in: **No. GIMS/KLB/TENDER/Surgical/CR/19/2023-24 Date:09-08-2023 IND. No: DME/ 2023-24/IND0151**, 2) Last Date for Queries : **23.08.2023 at 17:00pm**, 3) Pre-bid Meeting: **24.08.2023 at 11:00am**, 4) Last Date for Uploading of Tender in e-procurement platform on or before : **07-09-2023 @ 4.30pm**, 5) Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid : **08-09-2023 @ 05:00pm**, 6) Opening of Tenders Financial bid : **11-09-2023 @ 11:30am**, 7) Tender amount: **Rs. 2,61,82,944=00,** 8) EMD: Rs. 2,00,000=00, 9) Contact Details : Director, GIMS Kalaburagi veresh Nagar sedam road Kalaburagi 585105, 08472-260252, Mob: 9448712914

Sd/- Director
Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/171/KSMC&A/2023-24

GOVT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME
STATION HQ ECHS COMMAND HOSPITAL AIR FORCE BANGALORE
Phone No: 08029917023 E-mail. : stnhq.chafb@echs.gov.in

1. ECHS invites applications to engage following Medical, Para Medical & Non Medical Staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinics Bangalore (Urban), ECHS Polyclinic Hassan, ECHS Referral Cell & Regional Centre Jalahalli upto 31 Mar 2024, renewal for additional period of one year/ till attaining the maximum age subject to performance of candidates/other conditions according to the criteria as mentioned against each:

SL. No.	Appointment	ECHS Polyclinic Bangalore(Urban)	ECHS Referral Cell	ECHS Polyclinic Hassan	Regional Centre Jalahalli	Fixed Remuneration
1.	Medical Specialist	01	--	--	--	1,00,000/-pm
2.	Pharmacist	--	01	--	--	28,100/-pm
3.	Dental A/T/H	01	--	01	--	28,100/-pm
4.	Clerk	--	--	01	--	19,700/-pm
5.	DEO	--	--	--	01	16,800/-pm

2. For QRs, Terms and Conditions, Application Form & Remuneration : Kindly see our website www.echs.gov.in. For additional details, please contact Stn HQ ECHS Command Hospital Air Force Bangalore at Telephone No. **08029917023** & email ID **stnhq.chafb@echs.gov.in** Also approach concerned ECHS Polyclinic for details. Preference will be given to the Ex-servicemen.
3. Last date of receipt of application as per format given at our website. Application as per requisite format along with self-attested photocopies of testimonials in support of Educational Qualification and Work Experience will be submitted to OIC Stn HQ ECHS Command Hospital Air Force Bangalore by **17 Aug 23** in duplicate. Any application received after **17 Aug 23** will not be accepted.
4. **Interview Date Timing and Venue** Candidate must reach Stn HQ ECHS Command Hospital Air Force Bangalore at 0930 Hrs on **21 Aug 23** for the interview. Interview will be held from 1030 Hrs onwards. Candidates must bring all the original certificates/ marksheets/ degree of 10th/Matric, 10+2 & Graduation/Post Graduation/Diploma/Course, Work Experience and discharge book, PPO, Service records at the time of interview. No TA/DA is admissible. Only candidates meeting the Qualitative Requirements may apply.

CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Email - swm@aurangabadmahapalika.org Helpline No. 155304 / 8055128080

NIT No. : AMC/SWM/380/2023 **Date 08/08/2023**

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITINGTENDER for "Selection of Agency for conducting IEC (Information, Education and Communication) & PR Activities for Chatrapati Sambhajinagar Municipal Corporation under Swachh Bharat Mission for 12 Months" invites online bids through https://mahatenders.gov.in for following works from the bidders fulfilling eligibility criteria's

S.N.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender	Earnest Money Deposit is Rs.
1	for "Selection of Agency for conducting IEC (Information, Education and Communication) & PR Activities for Chatrapati Sambhajinagar Municipal Corporation under Swachh Bharat Mission for 12 Months "Sambhajinagar for 12 months	11800/-	3,00,000/-

EMD shall be payable online on the portal https://mahatenders.gov.in
Online Tender Purchase start date : 08/08/2023
Online Tender Purchase end date : 01/09/2023 till 15:00 Hrs.
Online Bid Submission end date : 02/09/2023 till 15:00 Hrs.
Pre-bid Meeting : 21/08/2023 at 15:00 Hrs.
Technical Bid Opening date : 03/09/2023 at 15:00 Hrs.
PLACE OF OPENING BIDS : OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, E-TENDER CELL PHASE-3 BUILDING, CHHATRAPTI SAMBHAJINAGAR-431001
OFFICER INVITING BIDS : MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR MUNCIPAL CORPORATION 431001.
Amendment to NIT, if any would be published on website https://mahatenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Deputy Commissioner - 5
For Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Municipal Corporation

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20
E-Tender Notice Bid No. GEM/2023/B/3725754
Dated : 01.08.2023
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Bangalore Division : The work of Hiring / lump sum charges for supply of three numbers (03) of Truck / Lorry 10 Ton capacity for transportation of material for Bengaluru, Yesvantpur & SGT Depot's for a period of Two years.	**Rs. 94,47,869/-**

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 22-08-2023**
For details log on: https://gem.gov.in
Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer
PUB/287/AAS/PRB/SWR/2022-23 **Bengaluru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform general public that our client, **Mrs.Sheeja Veloor, D/o.K.C. Balakrishnan** Aged About 47 years, have entered into an agreement of sale for purchase of below mentioned property with **MR M.P JOSEPH S/O LATE M.P PHILIP AND HIS WIFE MRS.LILAMMA** R/at, Mannakunnil house, Nedungadapalli post, kunnamathanam pathanamthitta karukachal, Kottayam kerala-686545.
Any person/s, banks/ financial sectors/ individual/ authorities etc, having any claim/s, right, share of or interest over the schedule property shall file his/her/ their/its objections along with original documents with the undersigned within **07 DAYS** from the date of this publication.
Any objections on and after **07 days**, shall not be entertained and my clients shall proceed with the sale transaction presuming that there are no claim/s of any one whatsoever over the same.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the vacant immovable property bearing, **site No 11 & 12** H L No 97/1. **DODDAGUBBI VILLAGE, BIDARAHALLI HOBLI, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore** measuring east to West 80 feet and North to South (54.6+60) /2 feet Total measuring 4696 Square Feet together with all appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded.

Shaji .T Verghese, Advocate
Legal i Advocates and solicitors
Call : 9845154053

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Client is intending to purchase Flat No.A-004, Ground Floor in the Apartment known as "ROYAL ORCHID", constructed in converted Sy No. 196/3, Varthur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore ETQ, having super built up area of 1057 sq ft and 380.52 sq ft of undivided share in land, with one car park from L & T Finance Limited , 7th Floor, Technopolis, A-Wing, Plot no.4, Block-BP, Sector-V, Salt Lake , Kolkata-700091, as they have public auctioned the aforesaid property. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our client will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO
& H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor,Veerapillai Street,Near Commercial Street, Bengaluru-560001

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(PROJECT ORGANISATION)
TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No & Date: Proj1MS_JTJ-ED_ABS23_03 Dated: 08.08.2023
Name of the work: Provision of Automatic block Signalling with Dual MSDAC and EI/ OC interface in Jolarpettai (JTJ) - Erode (ED) section of Salem (SA) Division in Southern Railway.
Tender Value in Crores of ₹: 253.88
Bid Security (EMD) of ₹: 1,00,00,000/ -
Validity of the Offer: 90 days
Pre bid conference date and venue: 18.08.2023 @ 11:00 hrs. O/o CSTE/ Projects/MAS, 3rd floor, Moore Market Complex, Chennai -03
Closing Date & Time: 08/09/2023, 15:00 hrs.
Period of Completion: 24 months
E-Reverse auction: Applicable
Note: The detailed Tender Notice, Tender document along with terms & conditions and if any corrigendum to the tender is issued can be accessed through **(www.ireps.gov.in).**

DEPUTY CHIEF SIGNAL & TELECOMMUNICATION ENGINEER, PROJECT-I, SOUTHERN RAILWAY, CHETPET, CHENNAI -31

Follow us on: twitter.com/GMSRailway

भारतीय खाद्य निगम **FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA**
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय स. १०, पूर्वी छोर, मुख्य मार्ग, चौथा ब्लॉक, जयनगर
REGIONAL OFFICE No.10, EAST END MAIN ROAD, 4th'T' BLOCK, JAYANAGAR, बेंगलुरु/BENGALURU - 560041

सं. आरओ केए-32.0011.0/33/2023-कॉन-रो केए दिनांक: 09.08.2023
No. RO KA-32.0011.0/33/2023-CON-RO KA Date: 09.08.2023

ई-निविदा सूचना/e-Tender Notice

ऑनलाइन निविदाएं जी ई एम पोर्टल के माध्यम से "दो बोली प्रणाली" के तहत दो वर्ष हेतु नि**यमित 1) आरएच/जीएस शिमोगा और एफएसडी गाडीकोप्पा में एचटीसी, 2) आरएच/जीएस शिमोगा और एफएसडी तवरेकोप्पा में एचटीसी, 3) एफएसडी एंड्रोथ में एचटीसी, 4) आरएस/एफएसडी बोम्मापुर में एचटीसी, 5) एफएसडी केआरपीजी में आईटीसी, 6) आरएच/जीएस/एफएसडी मैसुरु में एचटीसी, 7) आरएच/जीएस नंजनगुड़ और एफएसडी मैसुरु में एचटीसी, 8) आरएच/जीएस मैसुरु में एचसी, 9) आरएच/जीएस मैसुरु से एफएसडी मैसुरु में एचटीसी और 10) एफएसडी मैसुरु पर एचसी के लिए** ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जा रही है। ऑनलाइन बोलियां **01.09.2023 को अपराहन 02:00 बजे** तक प्रस्तुत की जानी हैं। ऑनलाइन निविदाएं जी ई एम पोर्टल के माध्यम से "दो बोली प्रणाली" के तहत छह महीने हेतु **केएफसीएससी देवनहल्ली और जीएस डोड्डाबल्लापुरा में** तदर्थ **एचटीसी** के लिए ऑनलाइन टेंडर आमंत्रित की जा रही है । ऑनलाइन बोलियां **21.08.2023** को अपराहन **02:00 बजे** तक प्रस्तुत की जानी हैं। एनआईटी और निविदा प्रपत्र **"www.fci.gov.in"** और **"https://gem.gov.in"** पर उपलब्ध हैं। पंजीकरण, प्रशिक्षण और बोलियों को ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए, निविदाकारों को **"https://gem.gov.in"** पर देखने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।

Online Tenders for regular **1) HTC at RH/GS Shimoga & FSD Gadikoppa, 2) HTC at RH/GS Shimoga & FSD Tavarekoppa, 3) HTC at FSD Androth, 4) HTC at RS/FSD Bommapur, 5) ITC at FSD KRPG, 6) HTC at RH/GS/FSD Mysuru, 7) HTC at RH/GS Nanjangud & FSD Mysuru, 8) HC at RH/GS Mysuru, 9) HTC at RH/GS Mysuru to FSD Mysuru** and **10) HC at FSD Mysuru** for two years is invited under "Two Bid System" through GeM portal. Bid should be submitted online within **2.00 PM on 01.09.2023**. Online Tenders for **1) Adhoc HTC at KFCSC Devanahalli and GS Dodaballapura** for Six months is invited under "Two Bid System" through GeM portal. Bid should be submitted online within **2.00 PM on 21.08.2023**. NIT and tender forms are available in **"www.fci.gov.in"** & **"https://gem.gov.in"**. For registration, training and submitting bids online, tenderers are requested to visit **https://gem.gov.in.**

महाप्रबंधक (क्षेत्र)
GENERAL MANAGER (Region)

Ministry of Communications, Department of Posts, Civil Wing
PRESS NOTICE INVITING COMPOSITE PERCENTAGE RATE e-TENDER

Executive Engineer(C), Postal Civil Division, Bengaluru, invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate composite tenders for the following work:

N.I.T. No.: **19/PCD/BGL/2023-24.**
Name of Work: **Construction of New Post Office building at Kumaraswamy Layout under Bengaluru South Division**
Estimated Cost: **Rs. 2,02,75,271/- {Rs. 1,88,39,360/-(Civil Portion) & Rs. 14,35,911/-(Electrical Portion)}**
Earnest Money :**Rs. 4,05,505/-**
Period of completion :**12 Months.**
Last time and date of submission of bid: **21.08.2023 upto 15.00hrs**
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com**

--SD--
Executive Engineer(C),
Postal Civil Division, Bangalore- 560032.

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION BENGALURU
E-Tender Notice No.: TWS-TK_JRU_GDI_01_2023-24 Dated: 04/08/2023

Notice Inviting Tender

For and on behalf of President of India, **Dy. Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer, Railway Electrification, 2nd Floor, KSR Bengaluru City Railway Station, Bengaluru – 560023**, invited e-bids at website **https://ireps.gov.in** (CORE – SBC – S AND T) for the under mentioned work from the tenderers fulfilling the requisite eligibility criteria.
Name of the work: Trenching & Laying of underground Signalling cables/ Power cable, Casting of foundations, Supply of certain equipment/ Materials, Erection of Apparatus cases & fixing of equipment, wiring, testing & commissioning in connection with provision of Tower Wagon Siding at **Tumakuru, Chikjajur Jn.** and **Gudgeri** Stations involving alteration in existing EI (Make: Medha) in **Chikbanavar** (excl.) - **Hubballi Jn.** (excl.) section (**Group: 259**) of **South Western Railway**

Estimated Cost	E.M.D.	Cost of Tender Paper	Completion Period of the work	Tender closing Date and time
₹ 1,46,10,627.43/-	₹ 2,23,100/-	NIL	06 (Six) Months	28/08/2023 15.00 Hrs.

No manual offers, either by person or post will be accepted, against this e-tender even if the offer is submitted on firms' letter head and received in time. All such offers will be considered invalid and shall be summarily rejected. Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available on the website **http://ireps.gov.in**
The bidders must have Class- III digital signature certificate and required to be registered on IREPS portal. All relevant papers must have to be uploaded in the website of IREPS and instructions there on to be followed for e - bidding for the above mentioned e - tender.
The prospective bidders are advised to revisit the website seven days before the date of closing of the tender for any changes/corrigendum related to this tender.

Dy. Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer, RE, Bengaluru
No.: PR-134/2023 (Kaka) For and on behalf of the President of India

"Serving Customers with a Smile"

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION, BENGALURU
E-Tender Notice No.: TWS- THN_02_2023-24 dated: 04.08.2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer, Railway Electrification, 2nd Floor, KSR Bengaluru City Railway Station, Bengaluru – 560023, invited e-bids at website **https://ireps.gov.in** (CORE – SBC – S AND T) for the under mentioned work from the tenderers fulfilling the requisite eligibility criteria.

Name of the work: Trenching & Laying of underground Signalling cables/ Power cable, Casting of foundations, Supply of certain equipment/ Materials, Erection of Apparatus cases & fixing of equipment, wiring, testing & commissioning in connection with provision of Tower Wagon Siding at Tolahunse Station involving alteration in existing EI (Make: Kyosan) and carry out other miscellanous signalling works related to 25 KV AC RE fitness in Chikjajur Jn. (excl.) - Karjagi (excl.) section (Group: 259) of Mysuru Division in South Western Railway.

Estimated Cost:- ₹ 50,57,699.21/- **E.M.D:-** ₹ 1,01,200/-
Cost of Tender paper:- NIL
Completion period of the work:- 06 (Six) Months
Tender closing date and time:- 28/08/2023 15.00 Hrs.

No manual offers, either by person or post will be accepted, against this e-tender even if the offer is submitted on firms' letter head and received in time. All such offers will be considered invalid and shall be summarily rejected. Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available on the website **http://ireps.gov.in**
The bidders must have Class- III digital signature certificate and required to be registered on **IREPS** portal. All relevant papers must have to be uploaded in the website of **IREPS** and instructions there on to be followed for e - bidding for the above mentioned e - tender.
The prospective bidders are advised to revisit the website seven days before the date of closing of the tender for any changes/corrigendum related to this tender.

Dy. Chief Signal and Telecom Engineer,
Railway Electrification, Bengaluru
PR-135/2023 For and on behalf of the President of India

PAMM "Serving Customers with a Smile"

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala)
THYCAUD P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695014
Tele:0471-2945646, 2945600
website: www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, e-mail: eptenders.kmscl@kerala.gov.in
CIN No. U24233KL2007SGC021616

No. KMSCL/EP/14383/2023 Dated : 09.08.2023

e-TENDER NOTICE (Running Contract)

Online bids are invited for the supply and installation of the following equipment for various Government healthcare institutions across Kerala

Sl. No	Tender No.	Description	Online Pre-Bid Meeting	Last date of Online submission
1.	T502/2023	Multiparameter Monitor with Mainstream EtCO2 ,dual IBP and Non Invasive Continuous Cardiac Output, Depth of Anesthesia Monitor, Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation Machine, Hysteroscope & accessories	17.08.2023 11.00 a.m.	07.09.2023 5.00 p.m.
2.	T503/2023	Rigid Esophagoscope and Bronchoscope, OT Light LED Type C, Nasopharyngolaryngoscope, Electrically Operated Dental Chair Model C, Electrically Operated Dental Chair Model D, Reusable Capacitive Couple Grounded Pad, Cochlear Implant System.	18.08

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Holding a mirror: Sujata Chatterjee in Mahasweta Devi's *Hajar Churashir Ma* (Mother of 1084) mourns the loss of her son in the Naxalite movement of 1970s Bengal. As she searches for reasons why her son became a number and the revolutionary movement that took him away, Sujata also discovers her own place in a feudal world. ISTOCKPHOTO

Women in Translation: a unique gaze that opens up a world of new experiences

Reading writers like Annie Ernaux, Geetanjali Shree, Mahasweta Devi and others provides an insight into the cultural, historical and artistic milieu that shaped their ideas, which would have been lost to a larger audience if not translated

Sudipta Datta

August is celebrated as Women in Translation month (WITMonth), an annual reminder that more needs to be done to champion women writing in languages other than English. Translator Alison Anderson and blogger Meytal Radzinski launched the movement aiming to bridge the gender gap in publishing, and to ensure more women writers' voices are heard.

This 2013 push led to the announcement of the Warwick Prize for Women in Translation in 2017. Among the recipients are Yoko Tawada (*Memoirs of a Polar Bear*, translated from the German by Susan Bernofsky), Annie Ernaux (*The Years*, translated from the French by Alison L. Strayer) and Geetanjali Shree (*Tomb of Sand*, translated from Hindi by Daisy Rockwell) who won in 2022, sharing it with Marit Kapla (*Osebol: Voices from a Swedish Village*, translated by Peter Graves).

Gains from translation

What do we gain from reading women's voices in translation? For one, it opens up a whole new world of experiences and reaches a far larger audience. Writers like Ismat Chughtai, Qurratulain Hyder, Krishna Sobti, Mahasweta Devi, Elena Ferrante, Ernaux would have been lost to those who do not know Urdu, Hindi, Bengali, Italian or French if they had not been translated. To give an example, readers who do not read Hindi would not have discovered a character like Rajjo in Geetanjali Shree's debut novel, *Mai* (1993), if it had not been skilfully translated by Nita Kumar. It won the Sahitya Akademi award in 2002.

At the centre is mai, the mother, who was "always bent over, said little," and seemed to be like a puppet dancing to the tunes of so many. "But with even so many pulling her she did not splinter into pieces. She remained whole. She continued to be pulled, but somehow kept her balance within her own control."

In her Afterword, Kumar writes that mai, called Rajjo, opens up for readers a past of girlhood and freedom, a present of bondage and servitude, and a future yet unknown but full of potential. In a way, the 80-year-old protagonist of *Tomb of Sand* fulfils that potential by crossing all borders and pushing boundaries.

Mother courage

In her searing works, writer and activist Mahasweta Devi wrote about the time spent among tribals and other marginalised communities. She has powerful woman characters like Sujata Chatterjee in *Hajar Churashir Ma* (Mother of 1084) who is mourning the loss of her son in the violent Naxalite movement of 1970s Bengal. As she searches for reasons why her son became a number and the revolutionary movement that took him away, Sujata also discovers her own place in a feudal world.

Mahasweta Devi's short story, *Draupadi*, also set around the Naxalite movement, highlights the inequality and injustice in the lives of tribals. Draupadi or Dopdi loses her husband in an encounter and as she is surrounded by armed policemen, she enacts a chilling final act – she flings her sari away and walks up to them, making them terribly afraid of an "unarmed target". This powerful image lingers long after the story is read, and in 2021, *Draupadi* was dropped from the Delhi University undergraduate syllabus.

Memory and reality

Ernaux, who bagged the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2022, starts her 2008 bestseller, *The Years*, with these words: "All the images will disappear," and then writes a personal narrative of the period between 1941 and 2006 told through snapshots of the past and present.

She talks about books (*Gone with the Wind*, for instance), photos, films (*The Bridge on the River Kwai*), songs, radio, advertising and contrasts them with her diary entries.

Through this juxtaposition of the public and private, the French memoirist provides a glimpse of social history and culture over a period of time.

From the late 1950s, she observes: "More than ever people relied upon the acquisition of things to build better lives," exchanging coal-fuelled stoves for gas cookers, oil cloth-covered wooden tables for Formica-topped ones, old fashioned safety razors and cast-iron steam irons replaced by electrical equivalents.

The shame that awaits

For girls, though, she writes that shame lay in wait at every turn: "The verdict of *too* loomed large over their clothing and makeup: *too* short, long, low-cut, tight, flashy, etc. The height of their heels, whom they saw, what time they went out and came in... were subject to all-pervasive surveillance by society."

Cut to 2000 and Ernaux rues the cacophony and the "profusion of everything, objects, information, and 'expert opinions'." No sooner has an event occurred than, she says, someone issues a reflection, whatever the subject: manners of conduct, the body, euthanasia, depression, alcoholism, frigidity, anorexia, unhappy childhoods – "nothing was lived in vain anymore."

In a sentence easy to relate to as the world has gotten noisier, Ernaux says, "With all the intermingling of concepts, it was increasingly difficult to find a phrase of one's own, the kind that, when silently repeated, helped one live."

Her advice to the weary people of the 21st century? "Save something from the time where we will never be again."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Louvre, one of the greatest museums, opened on August 10, 1793. A quiz on the world-famous destination's history and treasures

V.V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
Which king initiated the construction of the Louvre Palace, the site of the museum, as a fortress and on which river's bank is it situated?

QUESTION 2
In 1966, the Louvre chose to showcase which masterpiece in the Salle des États, the largest room in the palace?

QUESTION 3
At over 6 metres high and almost 10 metres wide, which work by Veronese (Paolo Caliari) is the biggest painting in the Louvre and which work is displayed opposite it?

QUESTION 4
Apart from Paris, in which Asian location is an official Louvre museum?

QUESTION 5
The wedding of Napoleon and Marie Louise of Austria was held in one of the most famous rooms at the Louvre, a room that has given its name to a term for exhibitions of living artists. Name the stately location.

QUESTION 6
Name the genius, whose work 'Slaves' are the highlight of a gallery named after him and houses the finest Italian sculptures.

QUESTION 7
What magnificent work, synonymous with the Louvre, can one see at the top of the fantastic Daru staircase in the Denon wing, Level 1?

Name the architect who designed this all glass pyramid. LOUVRE.FR

Answers to the previous day's quiz:
1. Which organisation catalogues translocation projects for threatened species? **Ans: International Union for Conservation of Nature**
2. This animal is Australia's most endangered marsupial and one of the world's rarest critically endangered mammals. **Ans: Gilbert's potoroo**
3. Which animal species was translocated to Ozark Mountains? **Ans: Black bear**
4. The most successful translocation of a plant species. **Ans: Narcissus cavanillesii**
5. What is it called when animals are translocated outside their historic and genetic range? **Ans: Extralimital translocation**
6. The organisation behind protecting Australia's animal population **Ans: Western Shield**
7. Visual question: **Ans: Indian Gaur**

Early Birds
Tania Neogi – Indra Sharma – Reva Desa

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

"Sir, Mr. B.C. Koshy, 250 C, Block 5, Neyveli, wants to know whether the following sentence from Dr. S. Radhakrishnan's book 'Our Heritage' is correct: 'It is time therefore that we realise these things and adopt them not merely in theory but in practice'. He also wants to know the meaning of the expression 'Indian Summer'."

"The sentence should be:"It is time therefore we realised and adopted them..." It is time we left. It is time she adopted a child. We can say 'It is time to go'. But when 'high time' or 'time' is followed by a 'that clause', we should say 'It is time we went'. I discussed this elaborately a couple of years ago. Dr. Radhakrishnan was not only a superb orator but also one of the finest writers of English prose. I am surprised at the sentence quoted from 'Our Heritage'. Well, nobody is perfect. 'Indian summer' is a period of dry, fine weather in late autumn in America and Canada. Figuratively, it is applied to a person's 'tranquil late period in life'. It can also mean 'a vigorous life of a short duration in a period of general decline'. It is called Indian summer as it is more common in the land occupied by Red Indians and American Indians than elsewhere."

"Sir Ms. A. Nageswari, 1047, C and D Block, Kuvempunagar, Mysore, wants to know whether the past tense of 'strive' is 'strove' or 'strived'."

"It is 'strove'; the past participle is 'striven'. During the last ten years, there has been a tendency to use 'strived' as the past tense of 'strive'. A couple of dictionaries have recorded this. But it is better not to use it as most people would think that you are ignorant. Careful writers still use 'strove'."

"Sir, Ms. Vijaya Lalitha Sarvepalli, 10-3-85, East Marredpalli, Secunderabad, wants to know the correct meaning of 'vulgar'."

" 'Vulgar' means 'of or characteristic of the common people, coarse in manners, low, indecent, obscene'. It is a vulgar poster. He has vulgar tastes. It was a vulgar display of wealth. The meaning of the word depends on the context. 'Vulgar' is from Latin 'vulgaris' which means 'common people', 'mob', 'a crowd'. The common people are not noted for their refined manners in any country. They don't have the polish of the sophisticated class. Hence the meaning 'not refined', 'coarse'. The word 'mob' is from Latin 'mobile vulgus', which means 'moving crowd', 'excitable crowd'. 'Mobile vulgus' became shortened to 'mobile' in the sixteenth century. 'Mobile' became shortened to 'mob' in the seventeenth century. The word 'mob' was considered vulgar for a number of years and it gained acceptance only in the nineteenth century."

(This article was published in The Hindu on December 20, 1988)

Word of the day

Meander:
moving slowly in no particular direction or with no clear purpose

Synonyms:
weave, wind, wander, rambling

Usage: *The small river meandered in lazy curves down the centre.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/meandernew

International Phonetic Alphabet: /miˈæn.dər.ɪŋ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

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Former AGM of bank among five convicted by CBI court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The former Assistant General Manager of United Bank of India was among five convicted by a CBI special court in a bank loan fraud case.

The accused Dhananjaya Reddy, MD of Nexxoft Infotel Ltd., his two directors, Nirmala and Dinesh Kavoor, and then AGM of cantonment branch, Rajesh Kumar Madhav, allegedly colluded and conspired to cheat the bank to avail ₹16 crore business loan and diverted the fund to invest in real estate.

Officials said the accused forged documents to avail the loan and purchased 1.3 acres of land in K.R. Puram which they converted into a layout and sold to many people in 2009. The accused deposited the title deed of the layout as collateral surety with the bank and later defaulted the loan. When the bank tried to auction the property, the site owners challenged the decision, which led to exposure of the fraud.

On Monday, the CBI judge sentenced Dhanajaya Reddy and realtor Sathyanarayana to four years imprisonment and the two directors and former AGM to one year imprisonment and fine of ₹23 crore, senior public prosecutor B.R. Shivananda Perla told *The Hindu*.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of My client **Mr.H.V.Hemaraju S/o Late.H.N.Vishwanath** to bring the notice of the general public that the original sale deed bearing doc No.306/1996-97, Volume-56, pages 20-24, of Book-1, executed by **Smt. Yashodamma and others,** represented by their Power of Attorney holder **Sri.D.Suresh and Sri.R.Sridhar** in favour of **Smt.M.Kamakshi** is missing / lost/ misplaced in respect of schedule property.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they may contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the residential immovable property bearing site **No.13,** present Katha No.3908/13, PID No. 150200200700220431, formed in converted Old Sy.No.72, New Sy.No.145, Conversion Order No.ALN.SR481/1981-82, dated.13.04.1982, situated at **Dasanapura Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet and bounded by:

East by : Site No.14, West by : Site No.12 North by : Road, South by : Brick Factory

H. Prahlada, Advocate & Solicitor,
For H.P.Law, #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED

CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E-TENDER NOTICE

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of System Integrator for the Design Development Implementation and Commissioning of Intelligent Solid Waste Management System and carry out Operation and Maintenance for five years

SL. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Selection of System Integrator for the Design Development Implementation and Commissioning of Intelligent Solid Waste Management System and carry out Operation and Maintenance for five years	2023_SCTLT_586112_1	17/08/2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e- mail.

All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in

(Sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

POOMPUHAR SHIPPING CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Tamilnadu Enterprise)
692, Anna Salai, IV[th] Floor, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035, India
Telephone No. : 044 - 24330505 / 807, Fax : 91-44-24344593 /24335706,
E-mail : pscship@gmail.com CIN : U63090TN1974PLC006596

Poompuhar Shipping Corporation Limited, a Government of Tamil Nadu Enterprise invites application from the qualified and experienced personnel for the appointment of under mentioned post on contract basis:

Name of the post	No. of the post	Consolidated pay (per Month)	Minimum experience (Yrs)	Maximum age (Yrs)
Consultant	01	Rs. 50,000/-	03	45

Detailed qualifications and experience available in our website : www.tamilship.com

DIPR/923/DIS/2023 — CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR (FAC)

சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம். சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்.

ODISHA STATE SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED

(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR- 751002.
Tel-MD 0674- 2340573, E-mail - mdosscltd456@gmail.com

NIT No.OSSC/Mktg(Hort)-18/2023 - Short e-Tender Call Notice

OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender from Producers on item wise rate contract basis for Procurement of TC Pomegranate for Kharif-2023 in double cover system through online mode only for the work below.

Name of the work	Purchase of TC Pomegranate for Kharif-2023
No of work	One
Availability of bid documents in Portal	15.00 hours on dt.10.08.2023 to 17.00 hrs of dt.19.08.2023
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	17.00 hrs of dt. 19.08.2023
Date and Time of Opening of Bid	10.30 hrs of dt. 21.08.2023

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal **www.terndersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.

CAD-1621: **Sd/- Managing Director, OSSC Ltd, BBSR**
OIPR-01106/11/0035/2324

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Or write to us at **customercare@thehindu.co.in**
Scan the QR code to register your feedback

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public hereby notified that my client **Mr. J.C. Nagaraju son of Chinnamallappa,** aged about 48 years, Residing at 1st Division, Gangadharapura, Doddaballapur-561203 is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the Property mentioned below in the Schedule. He has lost/misplaced the Original sale deed dated 16-01-1979, document No.2591/1978-79 of Book-I, Volume No.1552, pages at 109-111, registered in the office of the SRO Doddaballapur pertaining to the Schedule Property. In this connection, an E-Complaint has also been lodged on **09-08-2023 vide Lost Report No.0678448/2023.** I hereby call upon the General public if anyone is in custody or possession of the same or otherwise found the above said document, kindly handover to undersigned immediately/within **7 days** and they may be suitably awarded and also I further bring into the notice of the general public that in case anyone dealing with the Schedule Property on the basis of the above said original document, it shall not be binding on my client and the same will be an offence and they are liable to punish under the Criminal and Civil Law.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Katha No.1044/4909/123/1A1, Property / PID No. 3-3-26-20, Assessment No. DBP2016043048903, CMC Sl. No.1044, situated at **Ward No.3, 3rd Phase, of Muthsandra, Rojipura Doddaballapura-561203,** measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 80 feet in all measuring 6400 Square feet in and bounded on the;

East by : 15 feet Road; West by : Property No.3-3-26-18; North by : Doddaballapura-Chikkaballapura Road; South by : Property No.3-3-519-222B;

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road,
Seshadripuram, Bangalore-500 020.
Contact : 9740718436

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2023-24/25 Dated : 01.08.2023

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Improvement to Sagar Jambagaru, Shivamogga, Talguppa, Harihar and Ranibennur Stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme including furniture and Signages.	Rs. 2,22,50,890/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 22-08-2023**

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2023-24/26 Dated : 02.08.2023

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Improvement to Tiptur, Chikkamagalur, Arsikere, Chitradurga and Davangere Stations under Amrit Bharat Station scheme including furniture and Signages.	Rs. 2,24,82,628/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 23-08-2023**

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2023-24/27 Dated : 02.08.2023

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Improvement to Chamarajanagar, Hassan, Sakleshpur, Subrahmanya Road and Bantawala Stations under Amrit Bharat Station scheme including furniture and Signages.	Rs. 2,27,67,844/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 23-08-2023**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
PUB/286/AAS/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Mysuru**
S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

IN THE DEBTS RECOVERY APPELLATE TRIBUNAL AT CHENNAI

I. A. No. 517 of 2022
In
R.A (S.A) No. 22 of 2016
(Arising out of Order dated 27/04/2016 passed by Debt Recovery Tribunal at Bangalore in S.A. No.257/ 2012)

The Present Address of the Petitioner/ Appellant:-

M/s. Sakshi Polymers Pvt Ltd., Flat No. 83, Dadlani's Mansion, 3rd Floor, Site No. 69, KH Road, Bangalore 560 027, Karnataka State Represented by its Director, Smt. Nupur Ramsisaria ...**Petitioner/Appellant**

Vs.

M/s. Monobal Packing Industries, B-228, Pennya Industrial Area, II Stage, Pennya, Bengalure-560 058 and 5 others ... **Respondents/Respondents**

NOTICE

R1 M/s. Monobal Packing Industries, B-228, Pennya Industrial Area, II Stage, Pennya, Bengaluru- 560 058

R3 Sri.A.Munuswamy, S/o Late Sri.Ramachari, No.51/1, Bangalore Civil & Military Station, Sy.No.50, Dookanahalli, Bangalore

R4 Sri.B.C.Satish Kumar, B-228, Pennya Industrial area, II Stage, Pennya, Bengaluru 560 058

R5 M/s. PCJ Poly Batch Industries, B-228, Pennya Industrial Area, II Stage, Pennya, Bengaluru 560 058

Sir's,

Please take notice that my client have filed the above application to implead the Union Bank of India, as the 6th Respondent in the above appeal, in pursuance to the merger of Corporation Bank. The said application came up before the Registrar DRAT, Chennai on 04.08.2023 and ordered Paper Publication to you for the hearing on 28.08.2023. Hence you are all hereby requested to appear before this Hon'ble Tribunal on 28.08.2023, without fail otherwise the matter will be decided in your absence.

PARAS JAIN
K.MAHESHWARAN
COUNSEL FOR THE APPELLANT
Place: Bangalore Date: 07-08-2023

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid No.: E-40/2023-2024 **Date: 07.08.2023**

E-TENDERS

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence S.No., Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity. **S.No.:- 1.** 06231845, (05/09/2023), LOAD RESISTOR TO PRIMARY VOLTAGE TRANSFORMER as per Specn. Specification no. CLW/ES/3/0024/A to PL No. 29650010, Qty. 421 Nos., **2.** 06230005.(12/09/2023), AUXILLIARY COMPRESSOR (MCPA) as per Specn. SPEC.No.CLW/ES/C-4 ALT-F to PL No. 29511010, Qty. 488 Set., **3.** 06231761, (12/09/2023), TEMPERATURE SENSOR OIL CIRCUIT TRANSFORMER as per Specn. CLW/ES/3/0033/G to PL No. 29500035, Qty. 1022 Nos., **4.** 06231109, (26/09/2023), SET OF ROOF BAR ALONG WITH HARDWARES specn: CLW/ES/3/0063/G to PL No. 29810115, Qty. 493 Set., **5.** 06231112, (26/09/2023), LED BASED FLASHER LIGHT **I)** ELRS/SPEC/LFL/0017 (REV.1, SEPT 2004). **II)** CLW/ES/SK-3/L-21/C specn: **I)** ELRS/SPEC/LFL/0017 (REV.1 SEPT.2004) **II)** CLW/ES/SK-3/L-21/C to PL No. 29612937, Qty. 1023 Set., **6.** 06231117, (28/09/2023), Earthing Choke specn: CLW/ES/3/0018/B to PL No. 29610310, Qty. 477 Nos., **7.** 06231072, (29/09/2023), MAIN COMPRESSOR WITH MOUNTING ACCESSORIES ALONG WITH MOTOR (SAFETY SLING TO BE PURCHASED FROM CLW APPROVED SOURCE ONLY) specn: 1-RDSO/2018/EL/SPEC/0137 REV-0 2. SPEC/E-10/3/09 MOTOR WITH AMENDMENT NOS.01to 06 OR LATEST to PL No. 29511008, Qty. 753 Set., **8.** 06231100, (03/10/2023), AMPLIFIER TO SENSOR OIL CIRCUIT specn: CLW SPECIFICATION NO. CLW/ES/3/0035/G to PL No. 29500059, Qty. 972 Nos., **9.** 06231101,(10/10/2023), Pantograph mounting insulator specn: CLW Spec. No.CLW/ES/AC/I-1/K, CLW/ES/SK-4/AC/I-1/Kto PL No. 29810127, Qty. 4140 Nos., **10.** 03231357A (24.08.23), Developmental Tender Nylon tube, PL NO. 29185026, 20 set., **11.** R/A (Double Bid System) 04231052 (28/09/23) Brake Gear Arrngt Part No. 29140225, 496 Set., **CORRIGENDUM S.No.:- S.No.:** 12., **Tender No.:-** 08231146, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-29., **Existing Due Date:-** 07/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 01/09/2023, **S.No.:** 13., **Tender No.:-** 08231147, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-23., **Existing Due Date:-** 10/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 01/09/2023, **S.No.:** 14., **Tender No.:-** 08231050, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-21., **Existing Due Date:-** 04/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 01/09/2023, **S.No.:** 15., **Tender No.:-** 08231053, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-21., **Existing Due Date:-** 09/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 04/09/2023, **S.No.:** 16., **Tender No.:-** 08231149, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-23., **Existing Due Date:-** 17/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 04/09/2023, **S.No.:** 17., **Tender No.:-** 08231054, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-21., **Existing Due Date:-** 14/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 05/09/2023, **S.No.:** 18., **Tender No.:-** 08231051, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-21., **Existing Due Date:-** 11/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 05/09/2023, **S.No.:** 19., **Tender No.:-** 08231052, **Bid Inv. No.:-** E-21., **Existing Due Date:-** 16/08/2023, **Revised Due Date:-** 06/09/2023, **S.No.:** 20., **Bid No.:-** E-27., **Tender No.:-** 03231006C , **Details of Corrigendum:-** Tender due to open on 01.08.23 has been Postponed and is due to open on 16.08.23. Tender quantity has been revised from 379 set to 586 set., **S.No.:** 21., **Bid No.:-** E-26., **Tender No.:-** Developmental Tender No. 10221041A Repair Kit for Injector Assembly PL No. 16040247, **Revision:-** 1, **Details of Corrigendum:-** The tender opening date has been revised and now the same will be opened on 22/08/23 instead of 10/08/23., **S.No.: 22., Bid No.:-** E-27., **Tender No.:-** 10222825C Bearign Half Camshaft Part No. 16150119, **Revision:-** 1, **Details of Corrigendum:-** The tender opening date has been revised and now the same will be opened on 31/08/23 instead of 02/08/23., **S.No.:** 23., **Bid No.:-** E-21/2023-24, **Tender No.:-** 042310098, **Revision:-** 1, **Details of Corrigendum:-** (i) Quantity to be read as 453 Set instead of 285 Set. **NOTE:** All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged for above tenders. The details of above tenders are available on **Website: www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in**.

PRO/BLW/S-44 **AMM/Eng.**

/banaraslocowork "Website : http://blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT

Bid Identification No.C.C.E.K.C., Keonjhar No. 19 / 2023-24

e-mail : ccekeonjharpwdcircle@gmail.com / sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No.3951, dt.31.07.2023

1. No. of the work	:-	4 number Road Works
2. Estimated cost	:-	Rs.365.61 Lakhs to Rs.653.29 Lakhs
3. Class of Contractor	:-	"B" Class, "A" Class & "Special" Class
4. Period of completion	:-	05 (Five) Calendar Months to 09 (Nine) Calendar Months
5. Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal	:-	From 11.30 Hours of 10.08.2023 to 16.00 Hours of 24.08.2023.
6. Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal	:-	16.00 Hours of 24.08.2023
7. Date of opening of Bid from Portal	:-	11.30 Hours on 25.08.2023
8. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	:-	Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **"http://tendersodisha.gov.in"**

B-624: **Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar.**
OIPR-34033/11/0034/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER,
SUBARNAREKHA & BUDHABALANGA BASIN, AT/PO:- LAXMIPOSI, DIST:-MAYURBHANJ.
Mail id : cebmsbb2019@gmail.com

Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No.- 16 /23-24 of CEBM, SBB, Laxmiposi

1.	Name of Work	A. Construction of Rupsa Minor including all sub minors from RD 00m to RD 7560m offtaking from RD 7950m of Rupsa Distributary with all Its structure, C C lining and service road. B. Raising & strengthening of Baharda T.R.E. Saline Embankment. C. Restoration and Protection to left bank of river Subarnarekha near village Birishpur, Panchughanta and right bank near village Gurudaspur and Bazarsol. D. Construction of Baisinga Branch Canal from RD 62265m to 62691m Including all structures and service road.
2.	Estimated Cost	A. Rs.4952.39 Lakh; B. Rs.2193.77 Lakh ; C. Rs.1536.46 Lakh; D. Rs.1120.75 Lakh
3.	Bid Security / E.M.D.	A. Rs.49,52,400/- ; B. Rs.21,93,800/- ; C. Rs.15,36,500/- ; D. Rs.11,20,800/-
4.	Period of Completion	For 1. A.& 1. B. - 24 (Twenty Four) Calendar Months 1. C. & 1.D. - 18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months.
5.	Class of Contractor	For 1. A & 1.B. :- "Special" Class and "Super" Class 1.C. & 1.D. :- "A" Class and "Special" Class
6.	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	17.08.2023 at 10.00 A.M.
7.	Last date / time for receipt of bid in the portal	13.09.2023 up to 5.00 PM.
8.	Date & time for Pre-Bid Conference	For S.L.No. 1.A. & 1.B. :- 28.08.2023 Office of the CE & BM, S & B Basin, Laxmiposi in physical/ virtual mode through Google Meet. The interested bidder should ask to link giving their email id to cebmsbb2019@gmail.com (Joining time in Google Meet 11:30 AM to 12:00 Noon)
9.	Date of Opening of bid	14.09.2023 at 11:00 A.M.
10.	Name & Address of the O.I.T.	Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, O/o the CE&BM, Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal **"https://tendersodisha.gov.in".**

A-418 : **Chief Engineer & Basin Manager**
OIPR-32074/11/0028/2324

E-mail.ID-sectcrb_2006@yahoo.co.in ; Tel/Fax – 0671-2301751/2302751

Government of Odisha
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CUTTACK (R&B) CIRCLE, CUTTACK
('e' – PROCUREMENT NOTICE)

Bid Identification No.CCE.Ctc.(R&B)12/2023-24

1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road & Building works as mentioned below.
2. No. of work : 08 Nos.
3. Nature of work : Road and Building Work
4. Class of contractor : **'A' & Special Class**
5. Tender Paper Cost : Rs.10000/- **(Online)**
6. Available of bid document in the web site : **From 14.08.2023 to 17.30 Hours of 28.09.2023**
7. Date of opening of bid : **Dt.29.08.2023 at 11.00 Hours.**
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website **https://tendersodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said web site.

Sd/- P.K.Rath, Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle

B-636 : OIPR-34012/11/0021/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BALASORE

No: - 3179 /WE, Dt.:- 05.08.2023

e - Procurement Notice

1. Name of the Work : "Building Work."
1. Estimated Cost : **Rs.135.00 lakhs to 584.74 lakhs** (Approximately)
2. Time for Completion : As per Annexure
3. No of Work : 05 (Five) Nos
4. Summary for Key dates is provided below :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4		5	6
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore.	N.C.B. No.-18 of 2023-24	Dt.11.08.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.31.08.2023 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.29.08.2023 Up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.01.09.2023 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website : www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Any other changes/Corrigendums may be seen only in website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

O-602: **S/d:- Er.S.K.Mishra, Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Balasore.**
OIPR-25105/11/0018/2324

OFFICE OF THE A.C.E (P)-4
DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
ROOM NO.31, B-BUILDING, JHANDEWALAN, NEW DELHI-110005,
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PRESS NIT No. 06/WB-I/2023-24

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD)	Tender Fee	Date of Release of Tender in E-Procurement Solution & Tender ID. No.	Last Date/Time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution
1.	Creation of Lake in the premises of Haiderpur WTP under EE (WB)-I	Rs. 2,57,15,060/-	Rs. 5,14,300/-	Rs. 1500/-	09.08.2023 Tender Id 2023_DJB_245839_1	31.08.2023 At 3:00 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at **https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in**

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 97 (2023-24) **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (WB)-I**

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD

NO.19-A, RUKMINI LAKSHMIPATHI ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI – 600 008
Phone-+91-4428554479,28554480 | Fax:+91-4428553729 Website: https://tidco.com

e-Tender Notice

NOTICE NO. TIDCO/TNDIC/DTIS04/2023-24 **Date:10.08.2023**

Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd (TIDCO), a Government of Tamil Nadu Enterprise involving in establishing and facilitating the large and medium Industries to stimulate industrial development in the State. TIDCO is the nodal agency for the implementation of Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridor in the state.

The Government of India (GOI) has launched a new scheme called Defence Testing Infrastructure Scheme (DTIS) for setting up of Greenfield Defence Testing Infrastructure (required for defence and aerospace related production), as a common facility through the Defence corridors along with private sector with Government assistance in Tamil Nadu.

In this context, TIDCO proposes for selection of industrial partners for "Development, Operation and Management of Defence Testing Infrastructure (DTI) for Mechanical and Material Tests under DTIS". TIDCO invites interested firms to submit proposals for undertaking the services described in the Tender document.

Interested firms can download the Tender from the website **https://tidco.com** & **https://www.tntenders.gov.in.** The Terms of Reference, Qualification Criteria and other terms and conditions are provided in the Tender Document.

The schedule for the bidding process is as follows:-

1. Pre-bid meeting at **3:00 P.M** on **23.08.2023** in TIDCO Office/ online VC
2. Last date and time for submission of Proposals/ Bids is on or before **3:00 P.M** on **12.09.2023** through **https://www.tntenders.gov.in**
3. Opening of Technical Proposals/ Bids is at **3.00 P.M** on **13.09.2023** at TIDCO Office.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited
19-A, Rukmini Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.
Email: cmd@tidco.com, coord.tndic@tidco.com **Website:** https://tidco.com

DIPR/4431/Tender/2023 "சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SHREYANSHU, R/at #37-38, 1st Cross, Shirdi Sai Nagar, K Narayanapura Main Road, Dr. Shivarama Karanth Nagar, Bengaluru- 560077 have changed my name to Shreyanshu Lakhtariya vide affidavit dated: 09.8.2023 sworn before Notary S.R.Ravikumar, Bengaluru

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MEENAKSHI, Spouse of No.JC-306810X, Rank: Hon Sub Maj, Name: Rajashekara, R/a Revanna Siddeshwara Nilaya, Govt. School Road, Bidrahalli Hobli, Bangalore East, Kannur Next to Lakshmisiddeshwara Temple, Bengaluru-562149 have changed my name from Meenakshi to K S Meenakshi and my correct DOB is 17/06/1964 vide affidavit dt: 03.08.2023 sworn before Notary B.V.Nagabhushana, B'luru

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY — Notice Inviting Auction

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Lucknow Invites on the behalf of The President of India invited through E-Auction system on from Advertising Agencies of M/exp trains to all coaches on Interior & exterior of trains for 03 years. Details are as under:

S. N.	e-auction notice	Train no.	from	to	Date and Time of Close of Auction
1	ADVT-Int-129409-84-22-1	12533/12534	Lucknow	Chatrapatishivaji (T)	Dt 10.08.2023 at 13:30 hrs
2	ADVT-Int-131314-119-23-1	12597/12598	Gorakhpur	Chatrapatishivaji (T)	Dt 10.08.2023 at 13:40 hrs
3	ADVT-Int-131316-94-22-1	15048/15047 15050/15049 15052/15051 15009/15010	Gorakhpur	Kolkata/Mailani	Dt 10.08.2023 at 13:50 hrs
4	ADVT-Int-131241-118-23-1	15008/15007	Lucknow	Varanasi	Dt 10.08.2023 at 14:00 hrs
5	ADVT-Int-154401-85-22-1	12529/12530 15069/15070	Lucknow/ Gorakhpur	Patliputra/ Aishbagh	Dt 10.08.2023 at 14:10 hrs
6	ADVT-Int-131245-93-22-1	15011/15012	Lucknow	Chandigarh	Dt 10.08.2023 at 14:20 hrs
7	ADVT-Int-131321-96-22-1	12555/12556 15003/15004	Gorakhpur	Bhatinda/Kanpur Anwarganj	Dt 10.08.2023 at 14:30 hrs
8	ADVT-Int-131909-120-23-1	15043/15044	Lucknow	Kathgodam	Dt 10.08.2023 at 14:40 hrs
9	ADVT-Int-131320-97-22-1	22537/22538 15017/15018	Gorakhpur	Lokmanya Tilak Terminal	Dt 10.08.2023 at 14:50 hrs
10	ADVT-Int-132368-97-22-1	12511/12512 12589/12590 12591/12592	Gorakhpur	Trivandrum/ Secunderabad/ Yeshwantpur	Dt 10.08.2023 at 15:00 hrs
11	ADVT-Int-131910-91-22-1	15045/15046	Gorakhpur	OKHA	Dt 10.08.2023 at 15:10 hrs
12	ADVT-Int-141947-86-22-1	12583/12584	Lucknow	NDLS	Dt 10.08.2023 at 15:20 hrs
13	ADVT-Int-131240-117-23-1	15005/15006 15001/15002	Gorakhpur	Dehradun	Dt 10.08.2023 at 15:30 hrs
14	ADVT-Int-131210-87-22-1	12531/12532	Lucknow	Gorakhpur	Dt 10.08.2023 at 15:40 hrs
15	ADVT-Int-131231-116-23-1	12587/12588 15097/15098	Gorakhpur/ Bhagalpur	Jammutavi	Dt 10.08.2023 at 15:50 hrs
16	ADVT-EFF-132329-22-1	15027/15028	Gorakhpur	Hatia	Dt 10.08.2023 at 16:00 hrs
17	ADVT-EFF-131314-23-1	12597/12598	Gorakhpur	Chatrapatishivaji (T)	Dt 10.08.2023 at 16:10 hrs
18	ADVT-EFF-131231-23-1	12587/12588 15097/15098	Gorakhpur/ Bhagalpur	Jammutavi	Dt 10.08.2023 at 16:20 hrs
19	ADVT-EFF-131328-22-1	15021/15022 15029/15030	Gorakhpur	Shalimar/Pune	Dt 10.08.2023 at 16:30 hrs
20	ADVT-EFF-131909-23-1	15043/15044	Lucknow	Kathgodam	Dt 10.08.2023 at 16:40 hrs
21	ADVT-EFF-131324-22-1	15023/15024	Gorakhpur	Yeshwantpur	Dt 10.08.2023 at 16:50 hrs
22	ADVT-EFF-131245-22-1	15011/15012	Lucknow	Chandigarh	Dt 10.08.2023 at 17:00 hrs
23	ADVT-EFF-129409-22-2	12533/12534	Lucknow	ChatrapatishivaJi (T)	Dt 10.08.2023 at 17:10 hrs
24	ADVT-EFF-132042-22-1	12535/12536 12593/12594	Lucknow	Raipur/Bhopal	Dt 10.08.2023 at 17:20 hrs
25	ADVT-EFF-131241-23-1	15008/15007	Lucknow	Varanasi	Dt 10.08.2023 at 17:30 hrs
26	ADVT-EFF-131240-23-1	15005/15006 15001/15002	Gorakhpur	Dehradun	Dt 10.08.2023 at 17:40 hrs
27	ADVT-EFF-131320-22-1	22537/22538 15017/15018	Gorakhpur	Lokmanya Tilak Terminal	Dt 10.08.2023 at 17:50 hrs
28	ADVT-EFF-132368-22-1	12511/12512 12589/12590 12591/12592	Gorakhpur	Trivandrum/ Secunderabad/ Yeshwantpur	Dt 10.08.2023 at 18:00 hrs
29	ADVT-EFF-131911-22-1	15054/15053 15083/15084	Lucknow	Chhapra/Farukkhabad	Dt 11.08.2023 at 10:30 hrs
30	ADVT-EFF-131316-22-1	15048/15047 15050/15049 15052/15051 15009/15010	Gorakhpur	Kolkata/Mailani	Dt 11.08.2023 at 10:40 hrs
31	ADVT-EFF-131321-22-1	15003/15004 12555/12556	Gorakhpur	Bhatinda/Kanpur Anwarganj	Dt 11.08.2023 at 10:50 hrs
32	ADVT-EFF-131267-22-1	15025/15026 15057/15058	Gorakhpur/ Mau	Anandvihar	Dt 11.08.2023 at 11:00 hrs

E-Auction Contract Period	03 Year
Website address	www.ireps.gov.in (E AUCTION MODULE)

CPRO/C-82 **Divisional Railway Manager/Comml./Lucknow**

About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955

"DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

Despite AICTE nod, colleges not interested to offer evening engg. course for working professionals

This is a U-turn from the situation four years ago when AICTE stated that if any working professional is interested in engineering courses, they should join regular colleges through lateral entry

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Despite the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) nod, no government, aided or private affiliated institution in Karnataka has come forward to offer three-year engineering programmes (B-Tech/BE) for working professionals.

Following a demand from working professionals, the AICTE permitted institutions across India to start engineering courses through lateral entry and called for applications from affiliated institutions. August 15 is the last date to apply.

According to sources, 170 applications were received by the AICTE, but none of them is from Karnataka.

BMS College of Engineering on Bull Temple Road in Bengaluru closed the BMS Evening Engineering College in July 2023. FILE PHOTO

Working professionals

Earlier, the University Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE), BMS College of Engineering of Bengaluru, and 10 other engineering Institutions were offering evening engineering colleges for working professionals. They were offering three-year engineering courses for diploma engineering pass-out students employed in various sectors. The students were enrolled in colleges through Diploma Common Entrance Test (DCET) conducted by the KEA.

However, with the aim of improving the quality of engineering education, the AICTE withdrew the permission for three-year degree programmes offered at evening engineering colleges for working professionals in the 2019-20 academic year.

AICTE stated that if any working professional is interested in engineering courses, they should join regular colleges through lateral entry.

Hence, all evening engineering colleges were closed from the 2020-21 academic year. BMS Evening Engineering College closed this academic year.

Days later, on July 24, 2023, the AICTE issued another order permitting affiliated institutions to start three-year engineering courses through lateral entry. A maximum of three programmes will be approved by AICTE with an intake of 30 seats each.

A batch of a minimum of 10 working professionals will be required to run the course in an academic year.

Now, working professionals are demanding that the State Government start evening engineering colleges in Karnataka.

Chetan, from Kunigal, said, "I have completed a 3-year diploma course. I am working as a quality engineer in a private firm in Bengaluru. The recent AICTE order is a new ray of hope to gain a B-Tech/BE degree for working professionals. But, all the evening engineering colleges in Karnataka were closed four years ago. We met the management of UVCE, BMS Engineering College, and Bengaluru Institute of Technology with a request to start three-year engineering courses for working professionals. But they are not showing any interest. Therefore, government engineering colleges are our last resort."

A diploma holder and engineering course aspirant, Nithin, from Hassan district, said, "After the AICTE order, we went to many private engineering colleges and requested them to start three-year engineering programmes for working professionals. But, due to a shortage of students, staff salary and other maintenance costs, the managements are not interested in starting evening colleges"

'No decision yet'

Rudra Naik, principal of BMS Evening Engineering College, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru, said, "Our management has closed the evening engineering college from this academic year. After the fresh AICTE order, for 15 days, many engineering course aspirants have been visiting us and enquiring about the evening engineering college. But, the management has not taken a decision on resuming the evening engineering college."

M.C. Sudhakar, Minister of Higher and Technical Education, said, "For many days, the diploma holders have been visiting my office and requesting to start the three-year engineering courses for working professionals. I have already discussed this with our officers, and we will take an appropriate decision within two days. UVCE is an institute of eminence, and it is not possible to start this course."

KEA allows SMSIMSR to fill 50% govt. quota medical seats with no fee

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The KEA has facilitated Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Muddenahalli, to provide free medical education to the students under government quota seats.
FILE PHOTO

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has allowed Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (SMSIMSR), Muddenahalli at Chickballapur to fill 50% of government quota medical seats with zero fees along with the condition of service for five years at the same institute.

Following a proposal by the State government, the KEA has facilitated SMSIMSR to provide free medical education to the government quota seats. The students who abide by the conditions of the institution can opt for these seats this year.

No special policy

Earlier, the SMSIMSR management had decided to offer free medical education to 40% of government quota seats along with 60% of management and other quota seats. The SMSIMSR management had requested the State government that 40% of government quota seats will be reserved for Karnataka students, including students who have studied the qualifying examination from the educational institutions of the Sri Satya Sai University for Human Excellence or the sponsoring body through Special Free of Cost Admission Reservation Policy (SFCARP).'

As introducing a separate policy would take time, the government has instructed the KEA to allow the SMSIMSR to offer free medical education for students who opted for the institution along with its conditions under government quota seats.

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has permitted 100 seats for the academic year of 2023-24. However, the SMSIMSR has limited the number of seats to 50 this year.

According to the seat matrix of the SMSIMSR, the institution will cater to 40% (20 seats) government quota seats and 40% (20 seats) private or payment seats with zero fee or free seats. The candidate opting for a seat in the institution need not pay any fee in any form. The other 15% (7 seats) NRI quota seats and 5% (3 seats) management quota seats will be filled with ₹40 lakh fee per year.

Ramya. S., Executive Director of KEA said, "On the basis of the government proposal, we allowed the SMSIMSR to offer free medical education for government quota seats. We will allot the government quota seats along with roster policy and other criteria. The terms and conditions agreement will be signed by the student."

Conditions

Students one who opted free cost medical education in the institution must compulsorily reside in the hostel of the institution, for the duration of the course of medical education and serve for five years in any of the free hospitals established by Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence.

During their service, the university will pay the salary.

If any candidate secures a post graduate seat in any other college, they will be allowed to pursue the course.

But, after completion of the PG course, either in the same institution or another college, the candidate will have to complete the remaining period of compulsory service in the hospitals of the university.

Spandana cremated

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kannada actor Vijay Raghavendra's wife Spandana was cremated at Harishchandra Ghat in Bengaluru on August 9, Wednesday. Spandana passed away at the age of 44 in Bangkok on August 7 due to a massive cardiac arrest. Her mortal remains were brought to Bengaluru late night on August 8. She was on a holiday with family in Bangkok. Politicians and celebrities visited Spandana's father and former ACP B.K. Shivaram's residence in Malleswaram to pay their final respect. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar also visited the residence and offered condolences to Vijay's family. Spandana was cremated at around 4 p.m.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, AUG. 10		
RISE	06:07	SET 18:43
RISE	00:47	SET 14:02
FRIDAY, AUG. 11		
RISE	06:07	SET 18:43
RISE	01:37	SET 14:57
SATURDAY, AUG. 12		
RISE	06:07	SET 18:42
RISE	02:27	SET 15:51

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	24
Mysuru	33	23
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spellof light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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Software tool to help design supplementary feeding programme

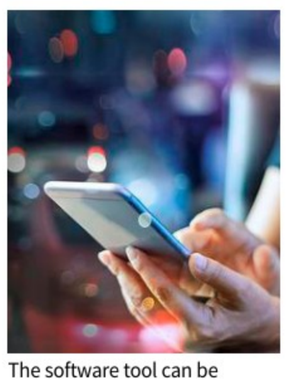
Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Researchers from St John's Medical College, in collaboration with WHO-India, have designed and released a software tool to aid in designing appropriate, diversified and economical supplementary nutrition provisions for the Government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS).

Developed by Professors Tinku Thomas and Anura Kurpad at St John's Medical College and Harshpal Singh Sachdev at the Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research in New Delhi, the software tool can be customised to work as a mobile application as well.

With funding from WHO-India, the software tool was developed for all States of India in association with the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) Hyderabad and several other institutions in the country.

The software tool will be disseminated at an online WHO programme on August 11. "The software tool can suggest supplementary feeding in the form of a take-home-ration or as a hot cooked meal/snack to be served at Anganwadis. It can optimise food provisions for children or pregnant women and lactating mothers, to meet their recommended needs of several nutrients, through complex linear programming," Prof. Kurpad told *The Hindu*.


The software tool can be customised to work as a mobile application as well. FILE PHOTO

The tool is also unique as it is based on a database of local foods in every State and is also designed to minimise the cost of the food mixture.

The tool is simple enough to be used by health workers, district program officers, frontline workers and the general public. At present it is in English with transliteration of food names, but explicit translations with dialects are on the way.

The app is free to use, and is located at https://datatools.sjri.res.in/WHO/, he said.

POSHAN 2.0

The ICDS Supplementary Nutrition, which is delivered across India for children less than six years of age, as well as pregnant and lactating mothers, is provided to all through Anganwadi centres.

"The Union Ministry of Women and Child Development's POSHAN 2.0 sets the guidelines for the quantity of nutrients to be supplied by supplementary nutrition. This aims at providing quality protein and essential micronutrients and encourages the provision of these through local dietary inputs, and fresh produce (green vegetables, fruits, medicinal plants, and herbs), fortified rice, and millets," said Prof. Thomas.

"However, it is a tough feat to plan diets that fulfil these guidelines. According to data collected for the app, children are getting either higher or lower energy through the provision of hot-cooked meals in 12 States. The protein recommendation of supplementary nutrition is mostly met, but there is a deficit in fat in more than 50% of the States. Through the ICDS programme, only half of the States provide milk, and there is a negligible quantity of vegetables and fruits," she pointed out.

Based on the latest report by the Ministry there are about 10 crore beneficiaries for the programme across India.

"The tool will be very useful in planning optimal diets and nutrition for beneficiaries under the guidelines and cost constraints of the ICDS supplementary nutrition program," she added.

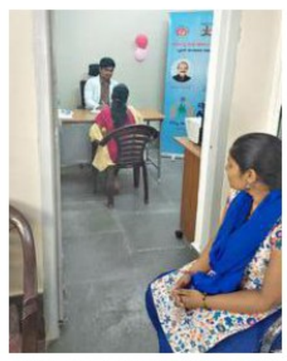
Over a hundred Namma Clinics to stay open till 8 p.m.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To make healthcare accessible to the working class after their duty hours, the State Health Department is working on keeping over a hundred of the 415 Namma Clinics open till 8 p.m. Presently, Namma Clinics function from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

State Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said it has been decided to change the timing of the clinics on the lines of evening clinic model, and preparations have been made to ensure they operate from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"The functioning of the clinics was during the time when most people/labourers go out to work. As a result, the poor are deprived of healthcare. I have instructed the authorities to change the time so that Namma Clinics function till night," the minister said in a statement.


So far, about 3.96 lakh women and 4.21 lakh men have been treated at Namma Clinics.
FILE PHOTO

Paucity of doctors

"As there is a paucity of doctors to work in two shifts, we have decided to have diagnostic services (laboratory) in the morning and clinical services from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Laboratory services at the clinics will open at 7 a.m. and only the lab technician will be there in the morning. After that, doctors and paramedical staff will be available from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.," he said.

"Initially on a pilot basis, 25% of the 415 clinics will function in the evening. If this is successful, we will consider changing the timings of all the Namma Clinics. Based on the footfalls, we will further upgrade services at the clinics," he said.

Footfall so far

So far, about 3.96 lakh women and 4.21 lakh men have been treated in Namma Clinics. An average of 35 to 40 people visit these clinics for treatment every day. Another 2.88 lakh people have been availed of the laboratory services.

Filing appeal against conviction will not dis-entitle a convict from parole: High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An appeal filed by a convict to the appellate court challenging his conviction will not come in the way of the prison authorities granting parole to him in the usual course, said the High Court of Karnataka.

The word pending 'cases' mentioned in the Karnataka Prison Rules, 1974, cannot include the appeal as the 'cases' can only mean any other criminal cases pending against the convict, the court said.

Delayed parole

Justice Suraj Govindaraj made this observation while quashing the decision of Kalaburagi Central Prison authorities in delaying parole to a convict, Arjun, on the ground that he had filed an appeal to the High Court against his conviction by the trial court and by treating this appeal as a pending 'case'.

If the contention of the

prison authorities that appeal is also a 'case' is accepted, then it would result in a situation where if a person convicted of an offence files an application for parole without filing an appeal then his application would be considered. But merely because a convict has filed an appeal, his application would stand rejected due to the filing of an appeal, the court said.

Fetter on executive

Such a situation, the court said, would amount to a fetter being imposed by the executive on a right to file an appeal by a convict which can never be the case, more so, when the right to file an appeal in terms of conviction is a right guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

Even where a bail application is rejected during the pendency of appeal against conviction, the application for parole would have to be considered in terms of the applicable law, and if no grounds are made out for release on parole, the application could be rejected, otherwise, the same would have to be allowed, the court observed.

CET: Combined Option Entry records 62 lakh entries

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) has stated that the process of combined option entry by aspirants of various professional degree courses including engineering and medical is in progress and the results of mock seat allotment will be published on August 11.

Ramya. S., Executive Director of KEA stated in a press release on Wednesday that, the results of those who have made their option entries before 10 a.m. on August 9, will be published on August 11.

This will provide the candidates with an idea as to where they are likely to get the seats.

Meanwhile, she has informed that the applicants have been allowed to make option entries till August 14 and candidates can alter their preferences as per their choices.

So far, the Combined Option Entry has recorded 62 lakh entries from 1.2 lakh aspirants.

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‘Right now, our grouse is not graft, but non-clearance of bills’

The fact that we are also fighting against the Congress govt. shows that our struggle is to safeguard the interests of contractors, says D. Kempanna, Karnataka State Contractors’ Association chief

INTERVIEW

D. Kempanna

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Contractors are again on a collision course with the Karnataka government. While the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) contractors have stopped work, demanding immediate clearance of pending bills, contractors across the State have also warned that they may tread the same path if bills are not cleared soon. The pending bills, cumulatively, have mounted to about ₹25,000 crore in the State.

Amid allegations by Janata Dal (Secular) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy that Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has been demanding a “commission” to clear bills, D. Kempanna, president of the Karnataka State Contractors’ Association, who led the association’s fight against the previous regime’s “40% commission”, spoke to *The Hindu* on their demands right now.

Edited excerpts:

You made a startling allegation of “40% commission” against the previous BJP government, which the Congress, then in the Opposition, made one of the poll planks and came to power. Mr. Kumaraswamy has now alleged that Mr. Shivakumar has demanded “commission”. There is also a video of a contractor making similar allegations. Have there been demands for “commission” under the Congress government too?

D. Kempanna

We do not wish to make allegations without clear grounds. It has only been three months since this government came to power and not many new tenders have been called. But at least to date, no contractor has come to the association complaining that Ministers or officials have been demanding commission under this regime. However, the problem is that pending bills which run to the tune of over ₹25,000 crore are not being cleared. This is across departments, a lion’s share in the Water Resources and Bengaluru Development departments. So, presently, our grouse is not corruption but non-clearance of pending bills.

Some contractors have sought the intervention of the Governor to get the pending bills cleared. Why has the situation come to this?

We had met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who also holds the charge of Finance, on clearing pending bills. He cited challenges in financing guarantee schemes and sought some time to mobilise resources to clear these pending bills. But Mr. Shivakumar has now instituted inquiries into earlier works carried out in Bengaluru, for which bills are pending. As per our estimates, there are pending bills for the past 26 months, to the tune of over ₹4,000 crore in the BBMP alone. This inquiry will delay the clearing of bills further, pushing the contractors who are already in dire straits into further debt trap. This move is only penalising contractors for the corruption that we have been fighting against. Moreover, how will the government now check the quality of works that are three to four years old?

Are you against inquiry into the works then?

More than the inquiry, our grouse is holding back our payments. We appeal to the government to clear 80% of the amount in each bill, withholding 20%, till the inquiry is completed. Holding back payment for the entire bill will make our lives very difficult, as these bills have been pending for two to three years now.

What is your next course of action?

The executive committee of the association is meeting on Friday to chart out the next course of struggle. When we made allegations of corruption against the previous regime, we were called stooges of the Congress. But the very fact that we are also fighting against the Congress government shows that our struggle is to safeguard the interests of contractors. BBMP contractors have stopped work till their bills are cleared, as a protest. We will take the campaign to all the districts, and if need be, we may also be forced to stop work.

Year-long events planned from Nov. 1 to mark golden jubilee of State’s renaming

Bronze statue of Nadadevi Bhuvaneshwari to be installed on Ravindra Kalakshetra premises

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka has decided to hold year-long celebrations from November 1 to mark the golden anniversary of its renaming from the erstwhile State of Mysore.

Announcing this at a press conference in Bengaluru on Wednesday, Kannada and Culture Minister Shivaraj Tangadagi said the nature of the year-long programmes would be finalised after holding divisional-level consultative meetings with Kannada writers and activists throughout the State. After the completion of the consultative process, a high-level meeting would be held with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to give a final shape to the year-long programmes, he said.

The then Governor Mohanlal Sukhadia and the then Chief Minister D. Devaraj Urs at an event in connection with the renaming of Mysore State as Karnataka.

The State of Mysore was renamed Karnataka with effect from November 1, 1973. It was on July 30, 1973, that the Lok Sabha adopted a Bill which provided for renaming of Mysore State as Karnataka.

Mr. Tangadagi, who held a meeting with Kannada writers and activists from the Bengaluru division on Wednesday, said a bronze statue of Nadadevi Bhuvaneshwari (Goddess of the land) would be installed on the premises of Ravindra Kalakshetra in Bengaluru at a cost of ₹3 crore.

Pointing out that the State got its present name in 1973 when D. Devaraj Urs, known as the champion of the backward classes, was the Chief Minister, Mr. Tangadagi maintained that it was a coincidence that its golden jubilee was being held when Mr. Siddaramaiah, who too is following the ideology of Urs, is the Chief Minister.

Cheluvarayaswamy meets Governor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy, who has been in the eye of a storm over the episode of a few agricultural officials allegedly writing to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot accusing him of demanding a bribe, on Wednesday met the Governor to tell him that it was a “fake” letter aimed at tarnishing his image.

Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy, in a petition to the Governor, appealed to him not to fall prey to such fake letters. He said it had been found that the letter written to the Governor was a fake one and the officials concerned had told him that they had not written any such letter.

The Minister told the Governor that it was unfortunate that based on such a fake letter, the Under Secretary of the Governor’s secretariat had forwarded a letter to the Chief Secretary asking for an inquiry.

Bar council prints fresh invitation excluding name of DKS for lawyers’ meet in Mysuru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Bar Council (KSBC) has excluded Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who is facing criminal cases, from the list of guests invited for the Karnataka State Level Advocates’ 10th Conference to be held in Mysuru on August 12.

Mr. Shivakumar’s name has been left out from the fresh set of invitation cards printed by withdrawing the earlier invitation, in which he was among the guests along with the Chief Minster, a judge of the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice of the High Court, and the Law Minister.

The KSBC has reviewed its decision of inviting Mr. Shivakumar after the former Law Minister S. Suresh Kumar questioned whether the judges of the Supreme Court and the High Court, as per the protocol followed by the judiciary, share the platform with Mr. Shivakumar when he is facing criminal cases and the petitions filed by him related to these cases are pending adjudication before these two courts.

Mr. Kumar had posed this question on his Facebook page as well as in a letter to the Registrar General of the High Court. The basis for his question was an incident that he had encountered when he was serving as Law Minister. He had said that enquiries on criminal cases were made with the persons who were supposed to share the dais with the then Chief Justice at the inaugural function of Holalkere taluk court building in Chitradurga district.

Non-disclosure of assets by candidate amounts to corrupt practice: High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has said that non-disclosure of assets or suppression of the assets of a candidate, or his or her spouse and dependents, will amount to corrupt practice requiring disqualification of the candidature in an election held to a panchayat under the Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj Act.

Also, the court said there is no particular requirement for the election petitioner to specifically aver or prove that the suppression has resulted in an adverse impact favourable to the returned candidate in the election, as the mere suppression is sufficient to invoke the provisions of Section 19(1)(b) of the Act, which prescribes grounds for declaring the election as void.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj, in his order setting aside an order passed by a civil court in Kalaburagi district in relation to the election of a member to a gram panchayat, said it is not only suggesting of false information regarding the assets but also suppression of details relating to the assets that would be covered under Section 19 of the Act.

The High Court, referring to observations made in the judgments of the apex court, pointed out that purity of election at all levels, be it election to Parliament or a State legislature or or panchayat is of national importance in which uniform policies are desirable in the interest of all the States and therefore, disclosure of assets has to be made of the candidate, spouse of the candidate, and other dependent members.

Ex-student held for posting obscene photos

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

The Hubballi Dharwad Police have arrested a former student of a private college on the charge of posting defamatory and obscene posts on social media by morphing photographs of girl students.

According to sources, the arrested has been identified as Rajanikanth Talawar, former student of a private college located in Shirur Park area in Hubballi.

The police are further investigating to check whether any other person is involved in the incident.

Protests

The former student is said to have posted obscene and defamatory posts by morphing photographs of girl students of the college, with vulgar messages on Instagram. The incident, which came to light three months after the messages were posted, has evoked protests from students organisations.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the public that my clients (1)Sri.Gellaram, (2) Sri. Ashok Kumar D, (3) Sri. Dinesh Kumar D. have lost the original Sale Deed dated 20.10.2008, registered as Doc No. 1015/2008-09 of Book I, stored in CD No. JAYD-106 in the office of the Sub Registrar, Jayanagara, Bangalore during 11.37 AM, on 14.09.2018 property situated at 24A Main Road, 9th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore. The said documents were related to Municipal No. 3, Old Site No. 1326, having BBMP PID No. 58-61-3 situated at 24th ‘A’ Main Road, 9th Block, Jayanagar Bengaluru, comes under BBMP Ward No. 58, Jayangar, measuring East to West 40 ft., and North to South 30 ft., in all measuring 1200 sq. ft. I have lodged the online police complaint vide Lost Report No. 0670011/2023.
If any person/s who finds it, is requested to return the same to us at below mention address:
Subrahamanya Hegde, Advocate,
ANANDA & HEGDE LAW ASSOCIATES,
#76-77, Krishna Krupa Building,
Ground Floor, 2nd Main Road,
Sheshadripuram, Bangalore-20.
Mob: 9060069259
Date: 10-8-2023
Bangalore

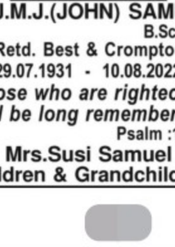
OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

M.SUBRAMANIAM (81), Retired Foreman- Printing, The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 09-08-2023. Address: 39-C, Kamaraj Nagar 3rd Street, Choolaimedu, Chennai-600094. Contact: 98405 93963.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST ANNIVERSARY



Mr.J.M.J.(JOHN) SAMUEL
B.Sc, MIE
Retd. Best & Crompton
29.07.1931 - 10.08.2022
Those who are righteous, will be long remembered.
Psalm :112:6
Mrs.Susi Samuel
Children & Grandchildren

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

RESPECTFUL HOMAGE

Shri P Jayaram Bhat

Former Chairman, Ex Managing Director and CEO

DOB: 14.11.1951 ● DOD: 09.08.2023

"may his soul rest in peace"

Board of Directors, Management
&
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Start-up solutions from Bengaluru for a sustainable circular future

From reusable packaging materials to recycling batteries to refurbished products, circular economy start-ups try to find a business model that is profitable and, at the same time, kinder to the planet

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Shashwat Gangwal and Keshav Godala used to order in food frequently as IIT-Kharagpur students. "The mess food wasn't great," Gangwal remembers. "And Swiggy and Zomato were just entering our campus."

While food delivery made life better for these friends, disposable plastic containers piled up on the side. The duo didn't pay much attention to it until one day they came across the containers being burned emitting toxic fumes and exposing people to the same.

Mr. Gangwal and Mr. Godala realised that burning or being sent to a landfill was the way such waste was dealt with most of the time. Plastic containers were rarely picked up by waste pickers as recycling them didn't make economic sense.

Meanwhile, the food delivery volumes were only growing, running into millions every day and producing an equivalent amount of plastic waste.

Mr. Gangwal and Mr. Godala attempted to solve this, and the result was InfinityBox, a Bengaluru-based packaging-as-a-service start-up which offers reusable containers as an alternative option for food delivery.

InfinityBox is one of the emerging crop of start-ups in Bengaluru shaping their model around circular economy.

Circular economy

The circular economy concept essentially talks about practices that encourage reuse, recycling, and refurbishing instead of disposing off resources and products.

From reusable packaging materials to recycling batteries to refurbished kid's products the circular economy startups try to find a business model that is profitable and, at the same time, kinder to the planet.

"Climate change is the biggest challenge of our generation. One practical approach to it is to change production and consumption patterns and habits," says Pratap Raju, founding partner at Climate Collective, a coalition that aims to build an ecosystem for climate entrepreneurship.

"What circular economy start-ups can do is help reduce the environmental impact of our production and consumption choices, which will not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change, but also reduce the deleterious impact our way of life has on nature and biodiversity," he adds.

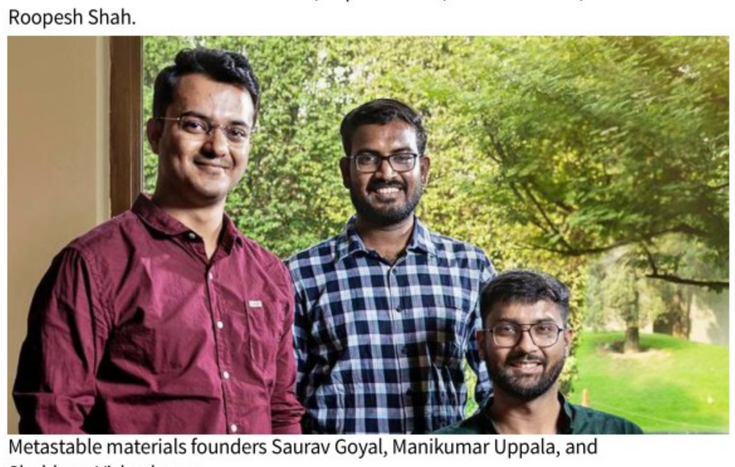
Fewer containers, lesser trashing

InfinityBox started out by giving customers the option to choose reusable containers while ordering through food delivery platforms. After use, the start-up would collect them back from the houses, wash and make them ready for reuse. Pilot programmes were run in cities like Bengaluru, Mumbai and Delhi with the support and funding of Swiggy.

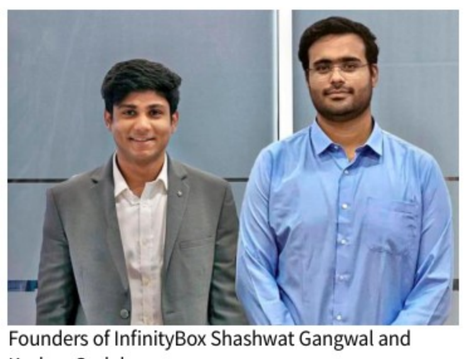
During the COVID-19 pandemic, bigger corporates approached the team. The companies needed packaging solutions in which they could distribute food to the workers. As these bulk orders made more economical sense InfinityBox started manufacturing 'thalis' that could be used more than 200 times.

"Today we work with corporates, hospitals, universities, coworking spaces, coliving spaces, and schools. You tell us what your packaging need is, and we will offer that service to you," says Mr. Gangwal, whose client list includes Morgan Stanley, Piramal, Narayana Hospital, Aster Hospital, Eurokids school, and IIT Bombay among others.

GroClub founders Hrishikesh Halase, Sapna Gowda, Pruthvi Gowda, and Roopesh Shah.



Metastable materials founders Saurav Goyal, Manikumar Uppala, and Shubham Vishvakarma.



Founders of InfinityBox Shashwat Gangwal and Keshav Godala.

Mini Mines founders Arvind Bhardwaj and Anupam Kumar.

With about 25,000 orders per day today, InfinityBox claims to save 10 to 40 percent of the monthly operational costs of the client.

"With a client that we just onboarded we expect to save about 1.3 billion litres of water in about a year and 1,00,000 kg of disposable waste. And that's just one client. With another client, just by replacing disposable plates with reusable plates, close to 100 kg of waste was being saved every day," Mr. Gangwal points out.

Outgrowing a problem

Pruthvi Gowda, Hrishikesh Halase, Sapna Gowda, and Roopesh Shah are all parents with young kids and have been observing how children outgrew products meant for them in a couple of years resulting in these products being discarded in a year or two. This prompted the quartet to found Gro Club which offers subscription services for kids bicycles and other products for kids.

"Direct-to-consumer (D2C) companies generally 'take, make and dispose.' But we want to have less dependency on manufacturing and give the product in such a way that people can use it as long as it is useful for them," Mr. Gowda explains.

Once the kid outgrows the product, it can be returned to the start-up which would then refurbish it, give it a brand-new look, and reintroduce it to the market.

Gro Club's subscription model allows the product to be used for 12 to 15 months, post which it can be returned. Parents can then upgrade it to the next size. The founders note that the subscription costs only 50 per cent of the money to buy the product.

"According to a study we have done manufacturing one single bicycle creates about 160 Kgs of carbon emission. Whereas for us to refurbish, it will take only about 40 Kgs of emission. There is no wastage or ecological damage. At the same time, we are profitable as well." Gowda notes.

"We are trying to change how people look at used products. If you introduce kids to such kind of services at an early age, they will get into the habit of using reused products. When you make that conscious shift, they'll carry it forward as they grow up."

Gro Club which went live in January has about 5,000 subscribers within 25 km radius of Bengaluru. While bicycle is the main product, the company also offers other kids' products like car seats, strollers and bunk beds.

Aiming to be a net zero company in the long term, Gro Club is also building a software which calculates the carbon emissions of the company which in turn would help them to adopt measures like afforestation to offset it.

Responsible recycling

Electrical vehicles have been gaining popularity in India and Bengaluru has been one of the flagbearers of the EV revolution. Between 2021 and 2022, sales of EVs saw a whopping 210 percent growth. While the sales numbers have generated excitement in the industry and brought the limelight on to EV and lithium-ion battery manufacturers, equally important is the recycling of these batteries. A large portion of the batteries end up in landfills making it hazardous for the environment. A few start-ups have been trying to fight this problem.

Bengaluru-based Metastable Materials which recycles Li-ion batteries claim their differentiating factor is the technology used. The existing methods in the industry are energy intensive and require a lot of capital expenditure to set up the plant or do chemical-intensive leaching. Not only does this increase the cost of recycling, but the energy intensive processes also mean a higher carbon footprint.

"We designed a new process that is completely chemical-free. We are not adding any chemicals to the process. Nor do we rely on highly energy-intensive processes. The total water consumption of our process is less than three litres per kg," says Sourav Goyal, cofounder and CEO at Metastable Materials.

The system has been designed in such a way that no air or water pollution is created during the process, claims Goyal, who points out that the startup looks at the supply chain part as well, thus adopting a holistic approach towards battery recycling.

"When we talk about recycling, disposing of batteries is just one part of the equation. The other part is transportation of batteries to the recycling plant," he notes.

Batteries tend to catch fire towards the end of their lives, and this makes their transportation dangerous. Metastable Materials has, therefore, developed a packaging material which prevents any untoward incidents. These are boxes with multiple layers which are chemical and fire resistant and provide structural integrity.

Creating mini ores

Mini Mines is yet another startup from Bengaluru operating in this market which is expected to grow to about $30 billion by 2030 globally.

Anupam Kumar, cofounder, and CEO at Mini Mines notes that several recyclers shred the battery and separate the active material known as black mass which they then send to foreign countries like China where refined minerals from the black mass are used to make batteries. These batteries are then sold back to India.

"This way the only value addition that is happening is going to the control of China. We at Mini Mines are solving this problem by extracting elemental compounds out of these waste batteries," Kumar says.

India doesn't have resources for lithium, cobalt and nickel and is dependent on import for these chemicals that go into batteries.

Mini Mines through its patented technology called hybrid hydro metallurgy (HHM) extracts valuable components from waste batteries. This way waste becomes a resource, and the discarded batteries work as mini ores from which chemicals could be obtained.

"The whole process is cost effective because we are using an aqueous medium for extraction of the elemental compounds. There is no solid, liquid or gaseous discharge during the process or at the end of the process."

"The whole process is environment friendly and any compound that we are extracting is a valuable industrial commodity," Kumar says.

Survey finds 41% of respondents in Bengaluru consume foods with artificial sweeteners

The top 10 products with artificial sweeteners consumed by people include diet soda drinks, sugar-free gums and energy drinks

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

During a recent online survey, 31% of nearly 4,500 people surveyed in Karnataka said they consume foods that have artificial sweeteners every month.

Conducted by LocalCircles, a community social media platform, the survey was done in the context of the global debate on the harmful impact of sweeteners, and the acceptable levels of safe consumption.

Over 23,000 responses were received from consumers located in 295 districts of India. Of the 2,900 people surveyed in Bengaluru, 41% said they consume foods containing artificial sweeteners. The top 10 products with artificial sweeteners consumed by people include diet soda drinks, sugar-free gums and energy drinks.

In India, FSSAI has approved six artificial sweeteners, namely saccharin sodium, aspartame, acesulfame potassium, sucralose, neotame, and isomaltulose for use in food in India.

Over 91% of the 23,000 respondents in India said food brands should prominently display the use of artificial sweeteners .

Karnataka responses

"We received 4,348 responses from Karnataka, and found that Bengaluru, with nearly two-thirds of the respondents. also had the highest percentage (41%) of people in Karnataka consuming products with artificial sweeteners as opposed to the State average of 31%," said Sachin Taparia, founder, LocalCircles.

"While diet soda drinks, sugar-free gums and energy drinks are the popular products with artificial sweeteners, one in three respondents in Bengaluru are consuming these sweeteners in other forms with their tea or coffee, traditional sweets, etc.," he said.

"While 34% of the respondents in Bengaluru said they consume diet soda drinks regularly, 31% said they consume energy drinks, and 35% sugar-free gums. Likewise, 18% said they consume sugar-free chocolates, 10% sugar-free ice creams, and 19% energy bars."

Consumption pattern

While the highest consumption percentage was reported from Delhi at 45%, Mumbai followed with 42% of the respondents stating that they consumed foods with artificial sweeteners. Two foods with sweeteners stood out as widely consumed in all the 295 districts – diet soda drinks and sugar-free gums, indicated by 32% of respondents (for each of these products) among those surveyed.

Use of artificial sweeteners

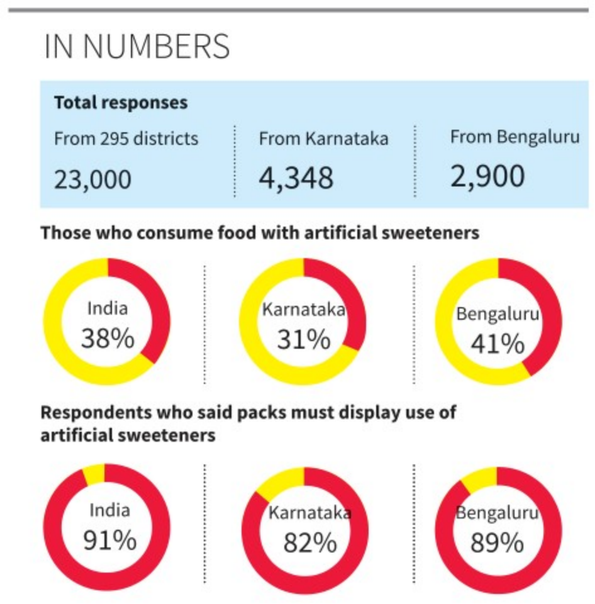
"Besides these two products, 26% indicated energy drinks, 18% sugar-free chocolates, 18% sugar-free ice creams, 5% energy bars, and 37% other foods and drinks. In addition, 32% of the respondents did not give a clear response, opting for 'Can't Say'. Overall, of those urban Indians that consume foods with artificial sweeteners each month, one in three consume diet soda or chewing gum.

Many of the respondents in this question opted for more than one product," Mr Taparia said.

In the nationwide survey, 66% respondents were men while 34% were women. Over 42% respondents were from Tier 1 cities, 34% from Tier 2, and 24% were from Tier 3, 4 and rural districts.

Over 91% of the 23,000 respondents in India said food brands should prominently display the use of artificial sweeteners on the front side of the packs.

"While 82% of the respondents in Karnataka expressed this opinion, Bengaluru had a slightly higher percentage in this category at 89%," Mr Taparia added.



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 10, 1973

Hoganekal: "Mysore's Interests safe"

Bangalore, Aug. 9: The Public Works Minister, Mr. H.M. Channabasappa, to-day reiterated that in the utilisation of river water, irrigation would always get priority over power.

He told pressmen here to-day this was because hydel power could be replaced by thermal or atomic power. No such replacement was possible with irrigation.

Mr. Chanabasappa was asked about the protest by the Minister of State for Major Irrigation, Mr. H.N. Nanje Gowda, against the plan to revive the investigation of the Hoganekal project.

Every one Mr. Chanabasappa said might have his own argument. However, mere investigation would not be prejudicial to the interests of the State. On the contrary the very purpose of the investigation was to safeguard the interests of the State.

Conversion of Bangalore-Mysore Line will Promote Industries

Bangalore, Aug 9: Industrialisation in the Mysore-Bangalore belt will get a fillip with the reported acceptance by the Government of India of the proposal to convert the existing metre-gauge railway line connecting these two cities into broad gauge.

Mysore has been repeatedly pressing its case in this regard along with its plea for strengthening of rail communications in the State to promote economic development.

CITYBEATS

Register for open mic

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON AUGUST 12
Indian Music Experience Museum (IME) has called for entries for its Open Mic August 2023. There are 20 performance slots to register for and each artiste will get six minutes to perform. Open to all genres.
At Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar. Vist https://indianmusicexperience.org to register.

Monsoon feast

ONGOING
The Bao-ssum Monsoon Festival is on at Ironhill Bengaluru, Marathahalli Outer Ring Road. The menu offers a range of baos that are paired with beers. The food is served at the restaurant's indoor and outdoor dining area in such a manner that customers can watch the rains as they dig into their food.
Call 9606044623 / 24 to book your table.

A virtual conversation

AUGUST 9, 6.30PM
MAP (Museum Of Art and Photography) is organising a virtual event called *Director's Cut*, where Tania Coen-Uzzielli (director of Tel Aviv Museum of Art) will be in conversation with Kamini Sawhney. The *Director's Cut* series offers a glimpse into how the institution of museums is being reimagined and reinvented today.
Visit MAP's website to register.

'Women flourish in many aspects of filmmaking'

Actor Meghana Raj will speak about women in cinema at a seminar at the ongoing Bengaluru International Short film Festival (BISFF)

Shilpa Anandraj

The Bengaluru International Short Film Festival (BISFF), India's only Oscar-accredited film festival, commenced on August 3 and will go on till August 13.

The brain child of Anand Varadarajan, BISFF was founded to create a platform for young and amateur filmmakers, to screen their short films for constructive critical feedback.

This year, the festival features seminars on VFX, Animation in the new AI World (a discussion with experts Jasbinder Singh, Prajwal Vas and Vinod) and Script, Screenplay and Beyond with experts including Chaitanya Hegde, Abhishek Iyengar, Pooja Sudhir on the panel, moderated by Prakash Belawadi. The Future is Female featuring Meghana Raj, Geetha Gurappa, Sumana Kittur and Champa Shetty is moderated by Vasanti Hariprakash. Rajendra Singh Babu (film director and producer), actors Shruti Hariharan and Mandya Ramesh are some of the jury members for the Indian and Karnataka competition sections, while Sumana is on the jury for the International competition segment.

Meghana Raj, a commercially successful actor and who comes from a theatre background, talks of her role in BISFF and the space of women in the world of cinema.

Meghana is thrilled to be a part of the festival and says, "Women in cinema have been celebrated to a certain extent. We are celebrated more in front of the camera. If you are a woman and are in cinema it is an unsaid understanding that you will be before the camera. It can be a lead or a supporting role, but acting is what has been dominant for years. It is not so anymore. Women, off late have started exploring the varied technical fields of cinema. I saw this change gradually since 2000. We have had women film makers including Roopa Iyer, Sumana Kittur. I am focussing just on the Kannada film industry."

Women at the forefront Meghana Raj and stills from the various films showcased at the BISFF.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The actor made her acting debut in the 2009 with the Telugu film *Bendu Apparao R.M.P.* "It was after the 2000s, that women flourished in various aspects of filmmaking, besides direction and acting. We saw women foraying into the field of makeup, music direction, sound design, cinematography, animation and so on. I have always had a male make up artistes and hairstylists. Today, when I get on to a set, I see women assistant directors, costume designers and more. It is amazing to see women flourish in so many aspects of filmmaking."

This is what Meghana will speak about in the seminar at the festival, she says. "I want to celebrate women in cinema and give a loud cheer to the women who have made a successful foray in their respective fields."

The fact that women do not thrive as well as their male counterparts in cinema is troubling to Meghana. "Though there are a handful of women who have made their mark, I think this is still a male-dominated field. We women are there, we do get recognised and opportunities, yet, men hold the upper hand. This ratio, is still up for debates and discussions".

Meghana, who won the Karnataka State Film Award for Best Actress for her performance in the 2018 Kannada film, *Iruvudellava Bittu*, says she enjoyed the films she watched at BISFF. "What stumped me is the subtlety of emotions. There are emotions such as anger, sadness, joy and love that are explored while those in between are ignored. For instance, there is a thin line between love and lust or anger and sadness. This thin line is what I saw being explored in most short films. Human emotions are always in shades of grey. There is no black or white there. These are the aspects that make the short films so interesting and give them a great storyline. Not just the direction and the making, even the actors have done a brilliant job. Since we are concentrating on women this time, from the films that I have watched, women have done a brilliant job of being subtle in front of the camera, while giving the role their all."

> There is a thin line between love and lust or anger and sadness. This thin line is what I saw being explored in most short films
> **MEGHANA RAJ**

Speaking about woman-oriented films such as *Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway*, Meghana says, "It was a brilliant film, the direction, acting everything... But, will our people watch a film like that if we made it? Any investor, will think a hundred times, before giving a nod as returns are also important. Let's take *Mrs Chatterjee...* and *Rocky aur Rani ki Prem Kahani*. It is the latter that will see greater footfalls in theatres, while the former will get a select audience. *KGF* is a brilliantly made film, but loaded with testosterone in every frame. Women on screen need to be rescued by the men. It is only once in a way, a film like *Kantara* succeeds. The woman protagonist in this film is strong and not a damsel in distress, who needs to be rescued, which was refreshing."

BISFF is accessible virtually and at Suchitra and at Max Mueller Bhavan (from August 10 to 13). Short film buffs can log on to www.bisff.in to watch the films.

Artistic conclave Works of art by P Subramanian, SG Vasudev and Basuki and (below) P Gnana.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

When art breaks boundaries

Shilpa Anandraj

An ongoing art exhibition, The Power Binary, is currently on. Organised by Gnani Arts, Singapore, it is "art in honour of the India-Singapore Connectivity," says P Gnana, founder of Gnani Arts. Gnana is from Neyveli near Puducherri and has been living in Singapore for the last 27 years after receiving a scholarship from the Lasalle School of Arts there.

The show, curated by his wife and co-founder of Gnani Arts, Vidhya Gouresan Nair, was officially inaugurated on August 9 and features works by renowned Indian and Singaporean artists such as SG Vasudev, Perumal, NS Manohar, Subramaniam, Doddamani, Gurudas Shenoy, Basuki Dasgupta, A Viswam and Krishna Setty.

Gnana is an artist and sculptor, whose works are in the collections of the former President of Singapore and the Singapore Art Museum of the National Heritage Board. His paintings have been auctioned as part of the Masterpiece Auction House's Southeast Asian collection. He talks to MetroPlus from Singapore, about Gnani Arts, The Power Binary and more.

How did Gnani arts come to be?
Art is my life and my life is arts. My dream was to be an artist. When I first came to Singapore, I realised there were not many galleries that showcased Indian artists. That triggered the idea in me to start a gallery to showcase South Indian artists in Singapore. In fact, I had nothing when I came to Singapore, except faith in my art. I knew I could achieve anything with my art. I was well-connected with many south Indian artists, who collaborated with me for art shows here. Gnani Arts came into being with goodwill and the support of all these artists. The other support I found for my art was my wife Vidhya, and today, Gnani Arts is known as a platform that promotes Indian art and artists in Singapore.

Could you describe your artistic journey?
We have always tried to do something unique and have encouraged community arts. During the pandemic, we organised online demonstrations and art classes for people across countries.

Our programme featured over 150 artists, and these online sessions helped homebound people and artists, who were taught varied techniques of art. We had people, collectors and artists from across the world be a part of our classes. Besides this, Vidhya curated hundreds of group shows.

Some renowned Indian artists such as SG Vasudev are a part of the show. What was it about their art or style did you connect with?
Great masters including SG Vasudev, P Perumal, Dakshina Murthy and SK Rajavelu are National Award winners from India. Today, their works are known here in Singapore with collectors looking forward to seeing their art. Some of the artists from Singapore will also be present at The Power Binary.

What would you say is the USP of The Power Binary?
The exhibition is a historic blockbuster that features more that 200 artworks by over 150 artists from India and Singapore. One facet is to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Gnani Arts and the other is to honour two global powerhouses – India's 76th year of Independence and Singapore's 58th National Day which is observed on August 9.

The Power Binary is on at Chitrakala Parishath till August 13.

An exploration of art and science

Science Gallery Bengaluru has come up with a multi-venue pop-up exhibition, CARBON #inthecity, which presents a unique blend of art and science, delving into the intricate relationship between carbon and various aspects of our lives.

Throughout August, public can engage with interactive displays at different metro stations (including Majestic, MG Road, Sandal Soap Factory, and Indiranagar), following CARBON's journey across the city. The exhibition, available in English and Kannada, features diverse exhibits from talented artists, including 'Allotropy of Mine' by Daniela Brill Estrada, 'Hydrocarbons' by Marina Zurkow, 'Streichhölzer. (Matches.)' by David Hochgatterer, and 'Jīvānu' by Shashi Thutupalli, Nayan Chakraborty, Malavika Anilkumar, and Harshini Sangle.

Complementary programs, such as hands-on workshops and insightful talks, invite participants to explore carbon from multiple perspectives. The exhibition highlights carbon's role as a pigment, ingredient, cultural symbol, measuring tool, and more.

CARBON #inthecity aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of carbon's significance throughout Earth's history and its contemporary challenges. Collaborating with institutions like the University of Zurich, Raman Research Institute, and others, the exhibition is supported by Swissnex, Swiss Arts Council, ESRC, GCRF, TESF, IIHS, and Canada Council for the Arts.

The exhibition is free to attend. For more information and registration for the workshops and talks, visit carbon.scigalleryblr.org/programmes

INBRIEF

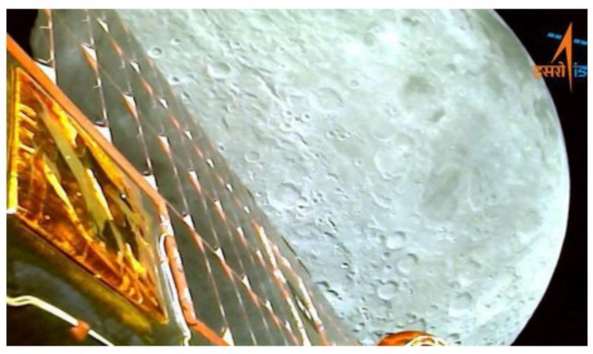
Annamayya riots: TDP chief Naidu booked as accused no. 1

The Annamayya district police on Wednesday registered criminal cases against Telugu Desam Party national president N. Chandrababu Naidu and named him as accused number one in connection with the violent incidents during his visit to the district on August 4. During his visit, the TDP cadres resorted to violence against the YSRCP men, leading to injuries to many of them.

Orbit reduction manoeuvre of Chandrayaan-3 performed

ISRO's third moon mission is now just 1,437 km away from the moon; the next operation is scheduled for August 14; soft landing on the south polar region of the moon will be on August 23

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU



A view of the moon from the Chandrayaan-3 lander, India's third mission to the only natural satellite of earth. REUTERS

The Indian Space Research Organisation on Wednesday carried out another orbit reduction manoeuvre of India's third moon mission, Chandrayaan-3.

The manoeuvre was performed from ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) centre in Bengaluru. The spacecraft is now just 1,437 km from the moon.

The ISRO stated: "Even closer to the moon's surface. Chandrayaan-3's orbit is reduced to 174 km x 1437 km following a manoeuvre performed today. The next operation is scheduled for August 14, 2023, between 11.30 and 12.30 hrs. IST." The fifth and final orbit reduction manoeuvre will be carried out on August 16.

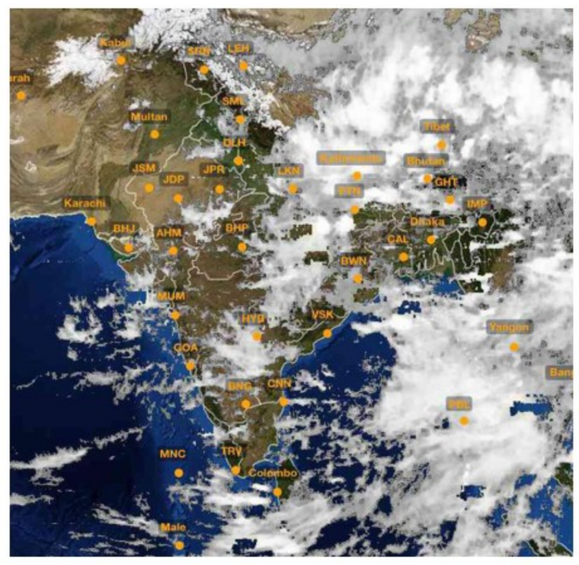
After the lunar orbit insertion on August 5, ISRO stated: "As the mission progresses, a series of manoeuvres have been planned to gradually reduce Chandrayaan-3's orbit and position it over the lunar poles. After some manoeuvres, the propulsion module will separate from the lander while in orbit. Following that, a series of complex braking manoeuvres will be executed to facilitate a soft landing on the south polar region of the moon on August 23, 2023."

Meanwhile, ISRO Chairman S. Somanath met Dr. Saku Tsuneka, Director General, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, and discussed space science cooperation between India and Japan.

The Indo-Japanese Lunar Polar Exploration mission was envisaged to explore the 'dark side of the moon', or in scientific terms, the side that is perpetually facing away from Earth. The main objective of the mission is to confirm the presence of water in the polar regions of the moon. The mission may be launched in the next couple of years.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	32.5	25.4	Kozhikode	—	33.0	25.2
Ahmedabad	—	31.5	27.0	Kurnool	12	34.6	24.5
Aizawl	71	29.5	20.7	Lucknow	—	30.5	27.0
Allahabad	—	32.2	27.2	Madurai	0.3	37.4	25.4
Bengaluru	1.2	30.4	20.8	Mangaluru	5.9	30.2	23.5
Bhopal	—	—	23.4	Mumbai	0.4	31.1	27.2
Bhubaneswar	—	34.8	26.2	Mysuru	—	32.0	23.2
Chandigarh	24	33.7	25.4	New Delhi	—	34.2	26.6
Chennai	—	37.3	28.3	Patna	18.2	28.1	25.0
Coimbatore	—	34.1	23.3	Port Blair	0.7	31.1	26.7
Dehradun	20.1	30.8	24.7	Puducherry	—	36.8	27.2
Gangtok	36	20.0	19.0	Pune	0.8	30.3	22.3
Goa	11	31.0	24.4	Raipur	—	32.0	25.8
Guwahati	6	33.4	25.2	Ranchi	3	27.8	23.0
Hubballi	—	29.0	23.0	Shillong	9	23.8	19.0
Hyderabad	—	31.7	24.2	Shimla	—	23.6	17.0
Imphal	32	29.6	21.2	Srinagar	—	32.6	18.6
Jaipur	—	33.1	25.3	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.0	24.6
Kochi	—	30.6	25.4	Tiruchi	—	38.7	20.4
Kohima	2	21.7	18.9	Vijayawada	0.4	36.1	27.2
Kolkata	2	35.1	26.4	Visakhapatnam	—	34.2	29.1

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.29	.38	.47	—	115	
Bengaluru	.12	—	.33	—	157	
Chennai	9	.25	118	—	58	
Delhi	8	.36	.29	153	110	
Hyderabad	.13	9	.5	104	97	
Kolkata	.13	.30	.31	67	72	
Lucknow	.5	.21	.26	65	107	
Mumbai	—	206	.14	42	41	
Pune	133	220	111	83	69	
Visakhapatnam	.13	.46	.33	66	138	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Bundi, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 284 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Karnataka Governor visits houses of five freedom fighters

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot felicitating freedom fighter Shakuntala at her residence in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Wednesday visited the houses of five freedom fighters in Bengaluru as part of the Quit India Movement anniversary and ahead of Independence Day celebration.

According to a press release, the Governor visited Shakuntala at Shri Sai Vrudhashram at Basavanagudi and honoured her by giving a certificate. Later, he paid a visit to the house of S.V.T. Gupta at Nanjappa Layout in Yelachenahalli and honoured him. After that he went to the house of Sankaranarayan Rao at Banashankari III Stage and offered him sweets. Later, he visited the houses of Nagabhushan Rao at Malleswaram and K.C. Narayanappa at Vinayaka Layout in Bhoopasandra. The Governor was accompanied by Bengaluru Urban District Deputy Commissioner K.A. Dayanand.

Man loses ₹7.2 lakh to fraudster

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Offering to increase the credit card limit, a man cheated the secretary of a private school and made away with ₹7.2 lakh.

Based on the complaint by Naveen Rao from Jakkur, the Amruthahalli police registered a case of cheating under various sections of the I-T Act on Saturday and efforts are on to track down the accused through the details of the transaction.

Mr. Rao in his complaint said that the accused, identifying himself as Manish Sharma, a bank executive, offered to increase his credit card limit. The accused sent a link asking Mr. Rao to enter the credit card number. After he completed the task, Sharma asked him to download an app. Suspecting something fishy, Mr. Rao refused.

Sharma somehow convinced him and sent his associate to his residence in Basavanagudi for the "validation process."

The accused approached him with a mobile phone in a covered envelop with the bank logo. He took the SIM and put it in the mobile phone the accused had carried and switched it on. A few seconds later, he returned the SIM stating that the validation is completed and left the place.

The scam came to light when Mr. Rao received a message from the bank that a total of ₹7.2 lakh had been debited in six transactions.

'Change State's name to Keralam'

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Assembly on Wednesday unanimously passed a resolution urging the Centre to officially change the name of the State from Kerala to Keralam.

The Assembly sought an amendment to the Constitution, which too refers the State as Kerala, in this regard.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಸರ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 2213898, 2213888 website : www.hdmc.gov.in
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ)
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ
ನಂ:ಎಚ್.ಡಿ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ:2505/ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್-01/2023-24/ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 09-08-2023

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಸನ್ 2023-24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಜೂರಾದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಆದೇಶ 1999-2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ Service Tender ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಯಮದನ್ವಯ PWD ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1) ಇಂಡೆಂಟ ನಂ- DMA/2023-24/SE0046, ರೂ. **48.50** ಲಕ್ಷ, (12 ತಿಂಗಳು)

ಈ ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಹೆಸರು, ಇ.ಎಮ್.ಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **10-08-2023** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **21-08-2023** ರಂದು ಸಾ. 4.00 ಗಂಟೆ ವರೆಗೆ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **22-08-2023** ರಂದು ಸಾ. 4.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **28-08-2023** ರಂದು ಬೆ. 10.30 ಗಂಟೆ ನಂತರ

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ)
ಹು-ಧಾ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಇ/ಧಾ/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/156/2023-24

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
e - Procurement NOTICE
Letter No. 2642 Dt. 05.08.2023

The Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Cuttack on behalf of Odisha State Rural Road Agency invites the percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of **Bridges** under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the districts of **Cuttack for 01(One)** number of packages with estimated cost totaling to **Rs.2.60 Cr** including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors registered with **State PWD / CPWD / MES / Railways.** The registered bidder of outside Odisha, can also participate in this process, but shall have to subsequently undergo registration with the appropriate authority of the State Govt. preferably within a month of the deadline for bid submission, but prior to signing of the contract. Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement. **dtd.14.08.2023.**

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in **www.pmgsytenders.gov.in**. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have a valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (a) (ii) of ITB with **C.C.E., R. W. Circle, Cuttack,** on a date not later than **three** working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the Bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.

Summary for key dates is provided below:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Cuttack.	**Tender RWC-16/23**	**14.08.2023 at 10.30 A.M.**	**28.08.2023 to 5.00 P.M**	**28.08.2023 up to 5.00 P.M**	**29.08.2023 at 10.30 A.M**	**Will be intimated later on**

Date of Submission of original documents such as Original Bid Security, Cost of Bid document and Affidavit : Dt.29.08.2023 at 11.00 A.M. to 01.09.2023 at 05.00 P.M.
Further details can be seen from the website www.pmgsytenders.gov.in
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Cuttack.
O-552: OIPR-25097/11/0017/2324

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owner **Mr. Glenn Aubrey Webber** S/o late Duncan Webber, Residing at No. 10, Nandidurga Road, Benson Town, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560 046.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing Municipal No.10, Nandidurga Road, Benson Town Post, Bangalore – 560046, measuring East to West 60.3+60/2 feet and North to South 65+75/2 feet in all measuring 4,200 sqft and bounded on the: **East By:** Nandidurga Road; **West By:** Site no 2; **North By:** Site no 3 & 4; **South By:** 25 feet common road.

Notice is hereby given to all concerned who have any objection/s for purchase of Schedule Property or have any right, title, interest or claim/s over the Schedule Property or any part thereof, are hereby requested to lodge their written objections/claims together with supporting documentary proof to the undersigned within **(7) Seven days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection/s or claim/s are forthcoming within the above said period, my client shall purchase the Schedule Property and no subsequent claim/s by anybody shall be entertained and all such objection/s and claim/s would be deemed to be void and non-binding on my client.

S. Selvakumar, M.A., LL.M.,
Advocate, No: 22, 4th 'C' Cross, 5th Block,
Koramangala Industrial Layout,
Bangalore-560 095.
Tel: 080-25526644/45; 25530200.
Bangalore Date: 10/08/2023

CHENNAI METROPOLITAN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
NOTICE INVITING TENDER THROUGH E-TENDER
INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

e-bids are invited from the eligible bidders for the following work as per the procedure of CMWSSB under two cover system conforming to the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and Rules 2000.

Sl. No.	Name of work and Tender No.	Bid Security	Prebid Meeting Date	e-Bid Submission closing Date	e-Bid Opening Date
1.	Providing Comprehensive Underground Sewerage Scheme for Vadaperumbakkam, Theeyambakkam (Division-17/Area II), Mathur (Division-17/Area II), Puzhal (Division-22&23/Area III) in Chennai City. CNT/SEW/ICB/AMRUT 2.0&KfW/004/2023-24	**Rs. 93,90,000/-**	**24.08.2023 at 11.30 a.m.**	**26.09.2023 upto 3.00 p.m.**	**27.09.2023 after 3.30 p.m.**
	EMD by online transfer only through tender Portal. The tenderer shall submit scanned copy of online transaction statement towards EMD as part of Tender document.				
	Availability of tender documents and e-bid submission is permitted through tender portal / **website:www.tntenders.gov.in** For all other details refer tender schedule in the website from **10.08.2023.**				

DIPR/4407/Tender/2023 **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, (Contracts & Monitoring)**
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

idco Your power to grow ISO 9001 & 14001 Corporation | **ODISHA** NEW OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C), IDCO, IDCO TOWERS, JANPATH, BHUBANESWAR-751022
Tender Call Notice No. IDCO/H.O./P&C/EST/E-1206/04/2021 /V-II/ 24603, dated : 07.08.2023
NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT

1. Name of the Work : **Improvement of Surge Protection embankment - cum - Coastal Road, Phase-A (Balance Work of S1, S2 and S5) at Paradeep, Jagatsinghpur, Odisha.**
2. Estimated Cost : **Rs.980.87 Lakh**
3. Period of Completion : **04 (Four) Calendar months.**
4. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid ID/Tender reference No.	Availability of Tender On-Line for Bidding	
1	2	3	4
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Towers, Bhubaneswar.	**Bid ID /Tender Reference No. P&C/EST/E-98/2023-24**	**18.08.2023 at 17.00 Hrs.**	**01.09.2023 up to 17.00 Hrs.**

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal, **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and Corrigendum if any will not be published in newspapers and can only be seen in the e-Procurement portal **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** and **www.idco.in.**
CAD-1605 Sd/- **Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, Bhubaneswar**
OIPR-14003/11/0165/2324

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
ಕೊಠಡಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 207, 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ಭವನ, ಬೀರಸಂದ್ರ ಗ್ರಾಮ, ಕುಂದಾಣ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-29787452 Email: dhobangalorerural@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ(4)/02/2023-24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09-08-2023

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ) ದ್ವಿ ಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿ

2023-24 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ(01-09-2023 ರಿಂದ 31-3-2024 ರ ವರೆಗೆ) ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ/ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ/ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಜಯಪುರ/ ತ್ಯಾಮಗೊಂಡ್ಲು ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗ್ರೂಪ್-ಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಾಹನ ಚಾಲಕರನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು 7 ತಿಂಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರಿಂದ/ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಪಡೆದ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999-2000 ಮೇರೆಗೆ ದ್ವಿಲಕೋಟೆ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡು ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರ್ಮ್ ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ	10/08/2023 ರಿಂದ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ
ಆನ್-ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	24/08/2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5:00 ರವರೆಗೆ
ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ಲಾಟ್‌ಫಾರ್ಮ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	30/08/2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5:00 ರವರೆಗೆ
ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	31/08/2023 ಸಂಜೆ 5:30 ಕ್ಕೆ
ಮೂಲ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ	ನಂತರ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು
ದರ ಬಿಡ್‌ನ್ನು ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ	ನಂತರ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂವಹನಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ವಿಳಾಸ: ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ನಂ.207, II ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ವಿಶ್ವಂತಪುರ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

ಸಹಿ/-
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ

DIPR/CP/847/GREENFMC/2023-24

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M. H. Marigowda Road, DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029.
Tel: 080-25536789/26096834 Fax: 080-25536105

IFT No: KMF/ENGG/NHMPP/1500CUM_ETP_CALL2/2023-24 Date: 03-08-2023

RETENDER NOTIFICATION
[Two Cover System] [Through E-procurement portal only]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tenders from the eligible contractors/ suppliers/ manufacturers through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal for the work mentioned in the table below. The interested and reputed contractors/ suppliers / manufacturers who have executed similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail: support@eprochelpdesk.com and helpline no. +91-8046010000, +91-8068948777, 080-22230960, 080-22234115

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty	EMD (in Rs.)	Period of Contract
1	Biannual Contract for Providing Manpower for Operation and Maintenance of 1500 KLPD Capacity Effluent Treatment Plant At Nandini Hitech Mega Powder Plant at Kannamangala Village, Channapatna Taluk, Ramanagara District.	1 Job	1,50,000/-	24 Months

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated 10-08-2023 to 25-08-2023 up to 4-00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 25-08-2023 up to 4.00 pm
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 28-08-2023 at 11.30 am
4. Pre-bid meeting date: 16.08.2023 at 11.30 AM

Hence forth changes / modification in the tender, It will be uploaded on Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only.

For Karnataka Co-Op. Milk Federation Ltd.,
Sd/-
Director [Engineering-1]

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer-in-Chief, 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender EMD(In Rs.)	Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1	UFW-2	BWSSB/EE(UFW)-2/PB/174/2023-24 Date: 08.08.2023(2nd Call)	Rs. 39,01,735/-	17.08.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	18.08.2023 after 4:05 p.m.
			Rs. 78,035/-		
2		BWSSB/EE(UFW)-2/PB/175/ 2023-24 Date: 08.08.2023(2nd Call)	Rs. 37,68,863/-		
			Rs. 75,377/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(UFW)-2

Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

3	South West-1	BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1080/ 2023-24 Date: 07.08.2023	Rs. 40,25,145/-	28.08.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	30.08.2023 after 4:00 p.m.
			Rs. 80,600/-		
4		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1080/ 2023-24 Date: 07.08.2023	Rs. 39,72,140/-		
			Rs. 79,500/-		
5		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1080/ 2023-24 Date: 07.08.2023	Rs. 11,20,155/-		
			Rs. 28,100/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(South West-1)

Office of the Chief Engineer (Kaveri-O&M), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

6	Kaveri-O&M-2	BWSSB/EE(K-O&M)-2/PB/1088/ 2023-24 Date: 01.08.2023(3rd Call)	Rs. 63,49,000/-	31.08.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	02.09.2023 after 4:00 p.m.
			Rs. 1,50,000/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(K-O&M)-2

Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

7	North West -2	BWSSB/EE(NW-2)/TO/PB/964/ 2023-24 Date: 08.08.2023	Rs. 17,45,258/-	21.08.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	22.08.2023 after 4:30 p.m.
			Rs. 43,700/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(North West-2)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the above office during working hours.
DIPR/CP/RA/858/2023-24

That '70s show

Proposed licensing for computing devices' imports dents India's credibility

Marking a sudden and sharp shift in India's foreign trade policy, the Commerce and Industry Ministry on August 3 notified restrictions on imports of laptops, personal computers (PCs), tablets and servers, making it compulsory for importers to secure a licence. The curbs were to kick in with immediate effect, rattling the entire supply chain (including shipments in transit) and igniting fears of shortages and price surges, especially ahead of the festive season. The government sought to suggest this was primarily driven by security concerns – imported devices could be used for surveillance, just as mobile phones could have spyware. It was also a rather blunt nudge for IT hardware producers to set up manufacturing bases in India by tapping a production-linked incentive scheme which has found few takers. But complex PC component value chains cannot crop up overnight, and concerns also flared up about how this may hit India's software and IT-enabled services export prowess. Sensing a backlash, the government went into damage control, deferring the curbs till November 1 and promising expeditious approvals to licence requests, while Ministers asserted this was not a return to the "Licence Raj" era.

Even if import licences will be issued in minutes, as indicated, the entire spectacle is a hark back to the early days of India's IT industry that was gradually freed up through the 1970s and 1980s, and industry players are likely to remain on edge till the licensing criteria become clear. Would importers need to justify imports of cutting-edge devices, or a software firm need to submit proof of new hires or fresh export orders to secure licences? If PC and tablet imports, which fell almost 28% in 2022-23 to $5.3 billion, are causing security fears because many come from China, the government can mandate testing norms to verify shipments. If the intent is to spur investments, it is difficult to bully global majors into committing large outlays at virtual gunpoint when they have other "easier to do business" alternatives around the world. Any increase in costs or limitations on device options would also imply collateral damage for India's consumers. For many households and small enterprises, this is not just about crossing the digital divide but also access to government services increasingly going online in a Digital India. Taken together with some recent policy ploys – such as the 28% GST on gaming bets, the freeze in prices of 'deregulated' petroleum products – this development makes for an ominous flashback for investors. Unpredictable policies, excessive taxation and a return to maximum government, can derail India's reform story.

Chasing consensus

The international community can push Russia and Ukraine towards talks

The Jeddah conference on the Ukraine war, in which 42 nations participated, was one of the most serious efforts by the world in finding a way to end the conflict. This was not a typical peace conference. Russia was not invited, and the main goal of Ukraine and its western partners was to build consensus among major powers, especially in the Global South, on working towards a fair and durable peace. After the talks, diplomats said there was broad acceptance about respecting the central pillars of international law such as Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and that there was agreement to meet again. China had stayed away from the Copenhagen conference in June, which was a precursor to the Jeddah talks. But with China's participation this time, along with India and South Africa – all countries that maintain good ties with Russia despite the war – global efforts towards peace have gained much more seriousness. China, in February, had issued a position paper on the war calling for a "political settlement", where it said the "sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries must be effectively upheld", while also backing Russia's security concerns. Western countries had slammed China's position, saying it could never be a neutral backer. But today, concerned parties appear to be more pragmatic and want China and India to play a bigger, constructive role in convincing Russia to take the path of talks.

Eighteen months after the war began, it is now evident that it has no military solution. Russia has made some advances since last year's humiliating retreat from Kherson and Kharkiv, but is still far from meeting its objectives, and is struggling to cope with the war's effects – from political and economic stability to security issues. Ukraine's much-awaited counteroffensive which started with advanced western weapons and training, has not achieved any major breakthrough. While Ukraine has shown its capability to strike deep inside Russia with drones, Moscow keeps bombing Ukrainian cities and ports. But the stalemate does not push either side towards talks. According to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky-y's peace plan, Russia has to withdraw from all occupied territories for talks to begin. Moscow demands recognition of the annexed Ukrainian territories, including regions its military does not control. Amid these maximalist positions, there is hardly any room for direct talks. This is where the international community could make a difference. It should work with Russia and Ukraine to build an agenda for future talks. The coming together of Ukraine's western backers, neutral developing powers and Russia's close partners could be the first step in building this consensus.

The calculus behind political neutrality

Asim Ali

is a political researcher and columnist

What is the strategy of unaligned parties for the 2024 general election? While the "INDIA" alliance (or the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance) has grabbed the headlines, the neutral camp that is sandwiched within the two big coalitions, subject to various push and pulls, provides an interesting portal to contemporary national politics.

The neutral parties

There are three major parties in this camp: the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) and the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS, earlier known as the Telangana Rashtra Samithi, or the TRS). The Bahujan Samaj Party is left out of the present analysis. These parties had racked up a combined 43 seats in 2019 (22 seats for the YSRCP, nine seats for the TRS, and 12 seats for the BJD), making this camp a crucial arbitrator of national fortunes. All three parties have largely followed the equidistant route since 2014 (except the TRS for a few years, although it seems back in the camp).

We can make two broad comments on the stance of these neutral parties – both explain how these parties have a symbiotic relationship with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the Centre.

The first deals with a personalistic settlement between the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister involving the "credit attribution of welfare". The second deals with the comfort of these ruling parties in facing a challenger that follows a route to power, based on top-down defections of elite groups rather than bottom-up mobilisation of subaltern groups by taking up "positional" issues relevant to them.

On the credit attribution point, a few days before the Parliament vote, Union Home Minister Amit Shah met Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on a visit to the State. At a public event, Mr. Shah not only congratulated Mr. Patnaik on becoming the second-longest serving Chief Minister of a State in India, but also praised him as a "popular CM".

It appears like the next round of elections in the coastal State would follow the paradigm set in 2019: the BJP is allowed a fraction of seats in the Parliamentary polls while the BJD's supremacy is not threatened at the Assembly level. To use a chess analogy, this stalemate is most clearly expressed through a tacit agreement not to attack the respective "kings" of each side.

The BJP's top leadership's engagement with Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy of the YSRCP mirrors its engagement with Mr. Patnaik. Last November, when the Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the State, both Mr. Modi and Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy praised each other from the platform, while vowing to continue their cordial partnership for the "development" of the State. Thus, both leaders contributed to building each other's personalistic aura as the unchallenged and capable leader in their respective realm, rather than cutting each other down, even as the State units of their parties clash against each other.

> The BJP's strategy to build its network through elite defections rather than ground-up mobilisation has not paid off in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as the Chief Ministers here have run tight ships

Credit attribution of welfare

As Yamini Aiyar and Louise Tillin (2020) point out, the electoral spearhead of BJP's model of "one-nation" federalism is the game of credit attribution of welfare. The BJP drills away at the substantive power of oppositional Chief Ministers as it strives to convert the national election into a "presidential" referendum, rather than a series of State-level contests. Thus, the party is particularly virulent in attacking Chief Ministers such as Arvind Kejriwal, as it did in Parliament this week. The object is to ensure that the developmental benefits received by the people, even if the schemes are implemented by the State government, are associated with the Prime Minister instead of the Chief Minister.

In States such as Andhra Pradesh and Odisha, where the Chief Ministers are co-opted into the BJP's national dominance, this fractious game of "credit-attribution" of schemes is largely uncompetitive. In both these States, the Prime Minister is allowed to win votes for the BJP in the Lok Sabha on certain central schemes, while the Chief Minister walks away with the credit, and the votes, for development benefits provided by the State government.

As regards "positional issues", these neutral parties are players within the protean ideological space which can be termed as the "Congress space", that of moderate centre-left politics. It is easier to define this space in the negative: if you take the Indian political universe and remove Hindu nationalism, Mandal politics, and exclusive sub-nationalism, what remains can be termed as the "Congress space".

The YSRCP is the regional breakaway unit, and the TRS/BRS is the former junior coalition partner of the former Congress in undivided Andhra Pradesh. The BJD had a different path of origin, as part of the Janata coalition. Yet, even as the Janata parties in then-neighbouring Bihar coalesced around the social justice plank, the BJD competed merely as a party promising "cleaner government" without really taking up "positional" political issues based on social cleavages of the State. While the issue of subnational Telangana pride could be electorally mined by the TRS in 2014, and to a lesser extent in 2019, there is little electoral benefit to be gained through sub-nationalism now.

All three parties display a pattern of political mobilisation on a similar patronage-based pattern to the erstwhile dominant Congress party. This means forging the dominant caste (Reddys in Andhra, Velamas in Telangana and Brahmins-Karans in Odisha) into a hierarchical coalition with the large subaltern population comprising Dalits and tribals. These subaltern constituencies are mobilised through generous welfare schemes. They have proved more effective in elections in the last few decades than the Congress because the respective Chief Ministers have been able to forcefully link their personality with the provisioning of these welfare benefits, resulting in a wide personal loyalty.

In these three States with large Dalit and tribal populations, the minority population is comparatively small. The Dalit-tribal combine comprised 40% of Odisha's population, and 23% of undivided Andhra Pradesh (the respective share of minorities is 6% and 12%, respectively), based on Census 2011. This demographic make-up favours a model of mobilising subalterns on positional issues rather than on communal issues, which the BJP has been unable to achieve.

The BJP's strategy in West Bengal and Delhi (the home State of "INDIA" constituents, the All India Trinamool Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party) is different for two reasons. One, the Muslim population in Bengal is large, a third of the State population, giving a fillip to its "natural" communal mobilisation strategy. Two, the BJP's organisational base is strong in Delhi, going back several decades where it has intermittently shared power with the Congress. In the three States under consideration, however, the BJP's organisation has been historically weak. Its strategy to build its network through elite defections rather than ground-up mobilisation has not paid off either as the Chief Ministers concerned have run tight ships, keeping politicians of the elite communities within their organisational folds.

A shift in Telangana

Telangana is a good and recent example where the Congress has overtaken the BJP following a revival of Congress sentiment, post the Bharat Jodo Yatra and especially following the Karnataka Assembly elections. The BJP's strategy of becoming the second pole of Telangana politics had depended (apart from communal mobilisation) on elite defections rather than on issue-based mobilisation of the subaltern sections. A key piece of this strategy, the expected shift of the Reddy political elites from the Congress to the BJP, has failed to materialise. Instead, the movement has been the other way around, with Congress snatching away key Reddy leaders, signalling the Reddy community's continuing affinity to the party. Also, the Congress has deepened its advantage *vis-à-vis* the BJP on positional issues with regard to the support of Dalits and the tribals, not only through the Bharat Jodo Yatra, but also State-level mobilisations of its subaltern leaders. In fact, it was the perceived stickiness of the traditional Dalit-Muslim support which has influenced the recent movement of Reddy elites towards the Congress, rather than the BJP.

Thus, these three parties, arguably do not mind the present arrangement of a strong BJP at the Centre as long as they are able to contain its presence at the State level. A revived Congress presents a sharper threat to the patronage-based flank of these parties among Dalits and tribals, using a positional platform of social justice, rather than a BJP overdependent on the appeal of Mr. Modi and elite defections.

Stop the fence-sitting in cluster bomb use

Prabhash Ranjan

teaches at the Faculty of Legal Studies, South Asian University

The decision by the United States to send cluster munitions to Ukraine, as part of a new military aid package to bolster Kyiv's war efforts against Russia, has raked up controversy. Cluster munitions, or cluster bombs, are weapons that release multiple explosive submunitions, also called bomblets, into the air. These submunitions explode as soon as they hit the ground, killing and maiming people in the area. Many bomblets do not blow up instantly and remain dormant for years (also known as the dud rate). These inactive bomblets act as precarious landmines, posing a grave threat to the civilian population, including women and children, for a long time. According to the Human Rights Watch, which is a civil society organisation, Russia, since launching a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, has used cluster bombs against Ukraine in cities such as Kharkiv, resulting in hundreds of civilian deaths and damaging civilian objects such as homes, hospitals, and schools. Now, Ukraine using these dangerous weapons will worsen the situation.

Cluster bombs have a notorious history. They were used in the Second World War. Since then, cluster bombs have been used on multiple occasions including by the U.S. in the wars in Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq. According to the Cluster Munition Monitor, anywhere between 56,000 to 86,000 people have died in cluster munition-affected countries, since the 1960s.

Enactment of convention

Along with its increasing use, the international campaign against cluster bombs led by the civil society organisations such as Human Rights Watch also gathered momentum. This resulted in an international treaty called the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) being enacted in May 2008. The enactment of the CCM has been a major step in eradicating cluster bombs. However, the treaty is not universal – 112 countries have acceded to the CCM including many North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) members such as Canada, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. But important countries such as the U.S., Russia, China, Israel, and India have not signed the CCM. Ukraine is not a member.

> The possession, transfer, supply and use of cluster bombs should be banned universally, as envisaged in the Convention on Cluster Munitions

Article 1 of the CCM bans the use, production, stockpiling, and transfer of cluster bombs. The convention further obligates countries to destroy existing stockpile of cluster munitions in their possession. Countries are also legally bound to develop a victim assistance programme to provide support and rehabilitation to the cluster bomb victims in their jurisdiction.

Customary international law

Given that there is such an international treaty, are Russia and Ukraine violating international law by using cluster bombs? Since these countries are not signatories to the CCM, it is argued that they are not bound by international law banning cluster bombs. This is not correct.

International law on armed conflicts has always drawn a distinction between combatants and civilian populations and between civilian objects and military objectives. In this regard, a fundamental customary international law (CIL) norm applicable to armed conflicts is the prohibition of indiscriminate attacks. In other words, an essential canon of international law is that the use of force must be discriminate, that is, the force should target specific military objectives and not civilians. This CIL norm is codified in Article 51(4) of Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, to which both Russia and Ukraine are parties. Given the nature of cluster bombs, their usage is a classic example of indiscriminate use of force that fails to differentiate between combatants and civilians, or between civilian objects and military objectives, and is thus illegal.

Another fundamental international humanitarian law norm relevant here is proportionality. Codified in Article 51(5) of the Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, this rule prohibits excessive use of force that causes incidental damage to the civilian population or civilian objects, when compared to military benefits anticipated. Given the fact that the use of cluster bombs is inherently indiscriminate, harming civilians, their use will amount to disproportionate use of force and is thus illegal. In sum, even if Russia and Ukraine are not signatories to the CCM, their use of cluster bombs violates international law.

But what about the U.S.? Arguably supplying cluster bombs to Ukraine outside of the CCM, that Washington has not signed, is not a violation of international law. Moreover, it is claimed that the U.S.-made cluster bombs, unlike the Russian ones, have a low dud rate, that is, the prospects of unexploded bomblets are slim. Thus, questionably, they meet the requirements of the use of force being proportional and discriminate. Nonetheless, supplying cluster bombs to any country is an irresponsible act. The usage and the possession and transfer or supply of cluster bombs should be banned universally, as envisaged in the CCM. For this to happen, all United Nations member-countries should accede to the CCM and eradicate cluster bombs from the face of the earth.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Manipur and politics

In spite of all-round criticism, which includes severe indictment by the Supreme Court of India over the handling of the volatile security situation in Manipur by both the Central and State governments, our political parties seem to be unmoved and carrying on as if the situation is normal and does not need a healing touch. What a great tragedy to befall this nation.

V. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

In hindsight, the Congress may realise that it was politically not a right decision to bring in a 'no-confidence motion' against the Narendra Modi-led government. It will not be unrealistic to predict that Mr. Modi will emerge even stronger than before once the motion is defeated by an overwhelming majority enjoyed by the BJP and backed by some non-NDA parties. Team I.N.D.I.A needs to be more innovative in drawing up its strategy against the Modi government.

S.K. Choudhury,
Bengaluru

Bulldozer demolitions

If the highly condemnable and unlawful bulldozer demolitions of houses and business properties of those 'said to be' involved in violence and arson has been allowed to be carried out freely in BJP-ruled States, the blame should be attributed mainly to the judiciary that has failed to prohibit such brutality. A crude manifestation introduced first in Uttar Pradesh has now spread. The country is facing unprecedented communal flare-ups, kindled by vested interests. One wonders where the country is headed.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

The anatomy of a riot

Shaikh Mujibur Rehman

teaches at Jamia Millia Central University, New Delhi

Though Hindu-Muslim violence is not new in India, the one that erupted in Nuh district and Gurgaon in Haryana recently has perhaps opened a new chapter in terms of its nature, character and consequences on Indian polity. Located in the Mewat region, Nuh is a poor district but its economic backwardness should not be seen as the main reason behind this violence. Based on reports, this violence – it could be argued – is a result of competitive assertion of identities in a highly polarised polity which offers varied forms of patronage to non-state actors. Given the state response, it looks like the Muslim minority may end up paying a disproportionately greater price, as has often been the case in riots even in the non-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) days of India's governance. Scholars might find it tempting to go back to Paul Brass's formulation of an institutionalised riot system (IRS), based on his study of riots in Aligarh and Meerut, to make sense of the spontaneity, and scale of this violence.

In my view, there is more to it than Brass's formulation. The political context of the sustained penetration of Hindu majoritarianism in various domains of state and society need to be factored in as well, particularly with regard to state indifference or complicity. The Haryana and Punjab Court's observation on Monday, describing bulldozer justice as "an exercise of ethnic cleansing is being conducted by the State," reveals a lot about the ideological intent of state response.

Everyday communalism

In 1992, after the demolition of the Babri Masjid when Narasimha Rao's government dismissed the governments of four-BJP ruled States, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh, some questioned the fairness by highlighting the riot-free regimes the BJP had given in these States till then. The claim that the Hindu Right regimes have a better record of riot-free governance continues to be made even today. The Haryana violence proves it wrong. In April this year, U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath made such a claim of no riots in the State since 2017. But National Crime Records Bureau data reports 5,302 cases of rioting in 2021.

During the Karnataka election campaign, also in April, Home Minister Amit Shah remarked at a rally in Belagavi that if the Congress came to power, there would be riots, implying that there were no riots under BJP rule.

There have been several incidents of riots in Maharashtra since April 2023 (Kolhapur, Mumbai, Sambhajinagar, Jalgaon, Akola and Ahmednagar), under the watch of the BJP coalition government. In most cases, there is a pattern which factors in a procession, a temple or mosque, and a social media post establishing the circle of reason for the violence. The Nuh violence also presents a similar pattern. According to Paul Brass, there are at least three phases: preparation/rehearsal, activation/enactment and then explanation/interpretation. Given the ideological spin accorded to interpretation of riots, it seems the truth about the anatomy of riot will elude many.

Row over Friday prayers

But how does one explain the speed with which the Nuh violence spread to Gurgaon leading to mob attacks on a mosque, killing its 26-year-old *Imam*? A Muslim group had won the case in the Supreme Court to refurbish and expand this mosque only two months ago. Therefore, the Gurgaon *namaz* controversy that had rocked the city in 2018 may have constituted a background to this attack. Muslims used to have 116 designated public spaces to offer Friday prayers which has been reduced to six, owing to sustained protests by Hindu Right groups.

To connect the dots, what is the Friday *namaz* controversy? That Friday congregations at public spaces, even if it is for a couple of hours, may have caused public inconvenience has some truth. However, immersion processions (of Ganesh or Durga) or the Kanwar *yatras* also have a similar impact on regular lives.

Mutual accommodation and respect are the ways these inconveniences have been addressed in the past. The present demand against Friday *namaz* is clearly driven by a Hindu supremacist ideology to show Muslims their place in this country – and public inconvenience is just a ruse.

But why do Muslims offer Friday prayers in public? According to Islamic practice, the Friday namaz is a unique mass prayer which requires a congregation, like during *Eid* or *Bakra-Eid*. For any newspaper reader in India, it is familiar to see photos of Muslims offering prayers on the roads during *Eid*. This is because a mosque does not have enough space to accommodate a large gathering. Given that there are not enough mosques to accommodate growing Muslim populations in Gurgaon, Muslims chose to offer prayers in an open space designated by the local administration.

In a way, it reflects the community's poor economic condition too. In this particular controversy, Muslim groups have conducted themselves with tremendous dignity, but their efforts to look for alternative arrangements for prayers have not borne fruit, owing to various bureaucratic bottlenecks, particularly with regard to available *waqf* lands and interest group politics connected with it.

To conclude, non-resolution of the *namaz* controversy, either by persuasive means or by state interventions, has created a supportive background to this retaliatory attack on a masjid in Gurgaon and the violence that followed. As long as there are no sincere secular interventions, the risk for violence will remain.

The recent riots in Nuh show a clear pattern of targeting Muslim minorities

A crisis in higher education

Governor-government collision on VCs weighs heavily on students

STATE OF PLAY

Shiv Sahay Singh
shivsahay.s@thehindu.co.in

Even as the new academic session begins, the West Bengal government and Raj Bhavan are at loggerheads over the appointment of Vice-Chancellors (VCs). At a time when universities are grappling with provisions of the new National Education Policy which mandates four-year undergraduate degree courses, none of the 31 State-run Universities in West Bengal has a full-time Vice-Chancellor. Over the past few months, Governor C.V. Ananda Bose has appointed more than a dozen people to officiate as VCs of state-run universities allegedly without holding any consultation with the State government. When Raj Bhavan announced the names of officiating VCs, the West Bengal government initially tried to discourage academics from taking up the posts. Later a public interest litigation was filed before the Calcutta High Court challenging these appointments. On June 28, the High Court dismissed the petition describing it as a 'tool' to challenge the orders of the Governor. The court, however, pointed out that the appointments were only an interim arrangement.

The West Bengal government and the Governor's office has not had the best of relationships, but things took a turn for the worse in 2022 when Jagdeep Dhankhar was Governor. The State government appointed 24 Vice-Chancellors, reportedly without consulting the Governor, whose validity was challenged by a writ petition. The court ruled that UGC Regulations of 2018, which states that a UGC

nominee has to be in the search committee for selection of VCs, will prevail.

After Governor Bose assumed office, he initially agreed to the Bengal government's proposal of accepting the resignation of the VCs, and appointing them as interim VCs this March. In May, when the three-month term came to an end, the State government sent a proposal to the Governor with a list of 27 names to be appointed as interim VCs for a period of six months. The Governor picked only two names from the list, and appointed several officiating VCs without consulting the State government.

On August 4, The West Bengal University Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2023 was passed in the State Assembly to comply with the court's order by reconstituting the search-cum-selection committee for the appointment of VCs. Along with having a UGC nominee, the new committee has five members, three of them nominated by the State government, thus giving the government an upper hand in appointment of VCs.

In 2022, the State Assembly had passed a number of Bills replacing the Governor with the Chief Minister as Chancellor of the Universities in the State to ease bottlenecks in VC appointments. The Bills have not been cleared by Raj Bhavan. After the passage of the August 4 legislation, a group of BJP MLAs met the Governor urging him not to give his assent to this legislation as well.

If the Governor and the State government continue to have different views on appointment of VCs, it can cause irreparable damage to higher education in the State.

Lack of infrastructure

While the number of both State-run and private universities have increased in the past 12 years of Trinamool Congress rule, most of these universities lack infrastructure. With many students and faculty opting to leave the State, higher education in West Bengal has become a shadow of its glorious past.

In the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIFR) ratings for 2023, only one university from the State, Jadavpur University, figured among the top 10 universities at number four. The University of Calcutta which had figured among the top 10 universities in NIFR 2022, slipped four positions, and is ranked 12th in NIFR 2023. No other university from West Bengal figured among the top 50 universities in the country.

Academics and administrators, who have been assigned the responsibility of interim VCs, cannot take any policy decision nor can they allocate any resources. The status quo is likely to weigh heavily on the future of over five lakh students who are getting admitted to these institutions across the State for the 2023-24 academic sessions.

In the past, Raj Bhavan has said that "education must be treated as a no-conflict zone", a view echoed by State Education Minister Bratya Basu. Both Raj Bhavan and the State government need to walk the talk, and resolve the impasse in the interest of students.

Claims of peace in J&K, amid continuing terror-related deaths

Poonch and Rajouri districts accounted for 50% of the terror-related deaths in 2023

DATA POINT

Krithika Ganapathy, Hashika Sharma and Vignesh Radhakrishnan

A month ago, on July 10, the Centre filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court which said that since 2019, Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) has been witnessing an "unprecedented era of peace, progress and prosperity" after the dilution of Article 370. The affidavit quoted some numbers to back this claim. A table showed the number of "terrorist initiated instances" had come down, from 228 in 2018 to 125 in 2022. Neither the source of data nor the definition of "terrorist initiated instances" was mentioned in the affidavit. There was no mention of the number of civilian or militant deaths in the affidavit. Rather, data of "organised stone-throwing incidents connected with terrorism-separatist agenda", were cited. The affidavit also quoted the number of bandh/hartals in support of the claim. Last Saturday marked four years since Jammu and Kashmir's special status was revoked by the Centre. On the anniversary, former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti recounted how she and other leaders of her party had been put under house arrest. J&K National Conference spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar said the party office had been sealed.

Moreover, in just the first week of August, three militants and three security personnel had died in terrorism-related incidents. In fact, data from South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP), which sources fatalities data from credible news agencies and dailies, show that the number of militant deaths has remained high since the major inflection point in 2016 when Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani was killed.

Chart 1 shows terrorism-related incidents of killing, and deaths of civilians, militants and security forces between 2009 and 2022. The number of militant deaths, in the post-dilution period, is nearly double that of the relatively calmer years of 2011 to 2015 and similar to the 2016-2018 levels which saw Kashmir on the boil again.

While the number of civilian deaths in terror incidents is trending downwards since the peak in 2018, 30 people still died in 2022, a number that is higher than 2012 (19 civilian deaths), 2013 (19), 2014 (28), 2015 (19) and 2016 (14). In 2021, 36 civilians died, while in 2020, 33 such fatalities were recorded. In 2021, 45 security personnel died, and 30 in 2022. In 2011 and 2012, the corresponding numbers were 31 and 1, respectively. SATP data also show that there were 51 attacks on the Central Reserve Police Force, between August 2019 and December 2022, as against 22 attacks between August 2012 and December 2015.

In fact, the number of forced Internet shutdowns in J&K, which ranged between three and five per year, between 2012 and 2015, peaked at 116 in 2020. In 2021, 79 Internet shutdowns were recorded, the second highest in the past decade. In 2022, there were 43 such shutdowns. The shutdowns were executed by the government as a response to disturbances.

Notably, post-dilution, relatively peaceful districts such as Poonch and Rajouri in the Jammu region, have also seen sharp spikes in terrorism-related deaths. The first half of 2023 has seen a dramatic shift, with these two districts recording around 50% of all such deaths, similar to the levels seen back in 2000 to 2003. The Forum for Human Rights in Jammu and Kashmir, in a recent report, mentions the resurgence of militancy in the Jammu region. It said: "Security analysts have warned over the past two years that, after decades of relative peace, Jammu division is once again providing loci of militancy, with a rising graph of armed attacks in Poonch and Rajouri districts."

Violence persists

The data for the charts were sourced from the South Asia Terrorism Portal, the Software Freedom Law Center, India and the report titled, 'Five Years Without an Elected Administration' (published by the Forum for Human Rights in Jammu and Kashmir, August 2022 -July 2023)

Alleged peace: Empty bullets near a house where two militants were hiding and later killed in an encounter in Srinagar on May 27, 2022. NISSAR AHMAD

Chart 1: Terrorism-related incidents of killing, and deaths of civilians, militants and security forces between 2009 and 2022

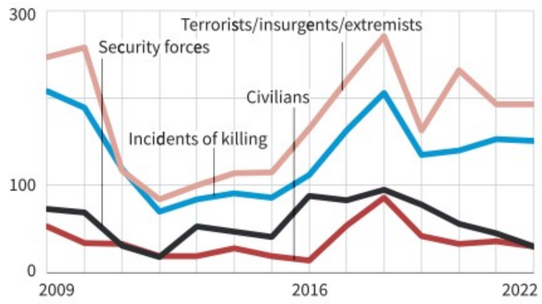


Chart 2: Number of forced Internet shutdowns between 2012 and 2022

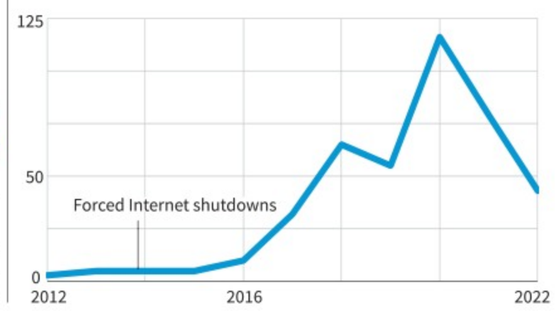


Chart 3: The chart depicts each district's share in terrorism-related fatalities in the 2009-2023 period. For instance, in the first half of 2023, 23% of all fatalities in J&K occurred in Poonch, while 25% were in Rajouri

Region	District	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023*
Jammu	Doda															
	Jammu															
	Kathua															
	Kishtwar															
	Poonch	10%							3%							23%
	Rajouri		11%				0%									25%
	Ramban															
	Reasi															
	Samba															
	Udhampur															
North Kashmir	Bandipore															
	Baramulla		23%		26%											
	Kupwara	28%		27%		37%	32%		32%		13%					28%
Central Kashmir	Budgam															
	Ganderbal															
	Srinagar															
South Kashmir	Anantnag															
	Kulgam															
	Pulwama						21%			21%		39%			18%	8%
	Shopian															
Ladakh	Kargil															
	Leh															

* Data till July 2023

Krithika Ganapathy and Hashika Sharma are interns with the Hindu Data Team

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 10, 1973

Delinking of AIR & TV

NEW DELHI, Aug. 9.

The Union Government is "actively" examining delnking of radio and television, which are now under one set-up, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Mr. I. K. Gujral told the Rajya Sabha at question time to-day.

Replying to Dr. Z. A. Ahmed (CPI) and others, Mr. Gujral ruled out any structural reorganisation of the present set-up except certain modifications to improve its functioning.

Several members demanded that All-India Radio be made an autonomous body and its structure reorganised.

Mr. Gujral said Government would try to expand radio news collections network in the Fifth Plan.

"But we have to work in close association with the news agencies because the agencies have built up a network," he added.

Asked by Mr. Krishnan Kant (Cong.) whether a Jan Sangh statement on setting up a "parallel radio" had come to Government's notice, Mr. Gujral said, "They won't be well-advised" to do so.

Mr. Prem Manohar (Jan Sangh) emphatically denied that his party made such a statement.

Replying to Mr. Bhupesh Gupta's (CPI) criticism of the radio's recent "Spotlight" broadcast about the late East German leader Walter Ulbricht, Mr. Gujral said its script was sent by the AIR correspondent in Bonn who was an Indian.

If there was some understatement about Ulbricht, he was sorry for it. "But I don't think it is there," Mr. Gujral said.– UNI.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 10, 1923

In England.

REUTER'S AGENCY

LONDON, Aug. 9.

Officials of the Transport Workers' Union and the National Union of Railwaymen have concluded an agreement of co-operative action to defend their interests as a counter-move to the unified front of employers embodied in the federation of British industries manifesto. The London committees of the unions say that the object of the agreement is to free the transport industry from the menace of non-unionism. A system will be inaugurated whereby men coming on railway premises or railway-men going to warehouse and docks will be challenged with regard to their trade union membership.

From Page One

Shah appeals for peace in Manipur, backs Biren

"Even before the House convened for the session, I had written that I was ready to discuss Manipur, but the opposition was not ready to hear me," Mr. Shah said. He added that the Opposition should have heard him out and then being dissatisfied with his response, they could have asked for the response of the Prime Minister.

'Myanmar Kuki refugees caused insecurity'
The Home Minister went into great detail describing the series of events that have triggered ethnic violence in the northeastern state, starting with the six years of peace that the BJP-led government in the State had ensured.

Mr. Shah traced the current series of events to the military junta's takeover in neighbouring Myanmar, which was opposed by the Kuki Democratic Front in that country, and led to an influx of Kuki refugees in both Mizoram and Manipur.

'Violence should not be politicised'
The Home Minister brought out examples from the past of similar ethnic clashes in Manipur, under different governments, where no discussion were held, or only the Minister of State for Home replied.

"They are asking why did Prime Minister Modi not speak, forgetting that when in 1993 a similar clash had happened, only then-Minister of State for Home Rajesh Pilot had replied in Parliament," he said.

"This is ethnic violence and should not be politicised," the Home Minister said.

An onslaught on 'Bharat Mata': Rahul

During his speech that lasted more than 30 minutes, Mr. Gandhi narrated his experience at two relief camps in Manipur. In the first, a mother spoke of clinging to the body of her only son, who had been shot dead; and in the other, a woman fainted while recalling her ordeal, he said.

"As I had said, India is a voice of the people. You finished that voice in Manipur. This means that you led an onslaught on Bharat Mata in Manipur," Mr. Gandhi asserted, amid the thumping of desks by Opposition leaders.

The proceedings saw some tense moments as Opposition members rushed to the Well of the House after Union Minister Kiren Rijiju stood up in an attempt to counter Mr. Gandhi's comment in the middle of his speech.

While on the one hand, Opposition members tried to shout down Mr. Rijiju, Treasury bench MPs raised slogans to object to the Congress leader's use of language on the other.

Mr. Birla also urged Mr. Gandhi to exercise restraint, asserting, "Bharat Mata is our mother."

"One mother is sitting here," Mr. Gandhi said in response to Mr. Birla, pointing to his mother and former Congress president, Sonia Gandhi, who was seated in the first row and added the other one, Manipur, has been "finished" by the BJP.

Shah's assurance to Kuki-Zo delegation

Another demand was establishing an office of the Lamba Commission of Inquiry in Churachandpur.

Ginza Vualzong, ITLF's spokesperson, said following the Home Minister's request, they have deferred the mass burial of 35 members of the community at S. Boljang village that was initially planned on August 3. Meitei outfits have objected to the burial claiming it is a government-notified land.

"The Home Minister asked us to change the burial site as it falls in a conflict zone. We did not promise anything. We will speak to our people and then take a decision," he said.

Meanwhile, the Manipur High Court, which on August 3 had stayed the proposed burial as an interim direction, extended its stay, and posted the matter for next hearing on August 30.

Another community leader said on the condition of anonymity that the talks were inconclusive and nothing concrete was offered. "Whenever we brought up the demand for political solution, he insisted on bringing peace first. When he came to Manipur the last time too he asked for 15 days' peace, but violence continued," the leader said.

Develop web browser and grab cash prizes

The CCA revoked NIC's authorisation for issuing most SSL certificates, but operating systems and browsers still do not have RCAI-approved authorities in their trust stores.

Even the website of the Indian Web Browser Development Challenge, as the competition is called, bears an SSL certificate through Let's Encrypt, a non-profit initiative by the California-based Internet Security Research Group.

Officials have framed the effort to create a browser that trusts Indian certifying authorities as a matter of reducing foreign dependence.

The competition is being organised and financed in collaboration with the IT Ministry's Research and Development division and the National Internet Exchange of India.

China goes 10 months without envoy in India

The post has not gone empty for such a long period in recent memory; despite the upcoming G-20 Summit, there has been no urgency, and Beijing is yet to suggest any names to Indian officials; some observers see delay as messaging to India and referring to its contention of ties being 'abnormal'

Ananth Krishnan

China has made no indications of appointing an Ambassador to India even after a record 10-month gap without an envoy in New Delhi, a delay described by observers as "unusual" ahead of key possible meetings between the leaders of the two countries and the upcoming G-20 Summit in India.

Chinese envoy Sun Weidong took up a post in Beijing as Vice Foreign Minister in October 2022. Since then, Chinese President Xi Jinping has made a slew of new ambassadorial appointments, but no appointment has been made for India.

Coveted appointment
The post in India – which is among the top 10 coveted posts for Chinese diplomats as the Ambassador acquires a rank of Vice Foreign Minister, as is the case for envoys to the United States, United Kingdom, and Japan – has not gone empty for such a long period in recent memory.

In contrast, Beijing has usually rushed to keep the post filled, as was the case ahead of Mr. Xi's first visit to India in September 2014, when both sides cleared the paperwork in record time to ensure then envoy Le Yucheng took up his post ahead of the visit, after his predecessor Wei Wei was recalled unexpectedly, less than two years into his posting.

Despite the upcoming G-20 Summit, there has been no such urgency on this occasion, and Beijing is yet to suggest any names for the post to Indian officials, even as relations enter a key period with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Xi set for possible meetings in coming weeks.

Both leaders are expected to attend the BRICS Summit in Johannesburg on August 22-24, and Mr. Xi is widely expected to travel to New Delhi for the G-20 Summit on September 9-10. Neither side has ruled out a bilateral meeting.

Sun Weidong whose term as Chinese envoy ended in October 2022.

Both leaders have not had structured bilateral talks since November 2019, when they met on the sidelines of a BRICS Summit in Brazil, a month after Mr. Xi's visit to Chennai for the "informal" summit in Mamallapuram. They did, however, discuss the need to stabilise ties when Mr. Modi approached Mr. Xi at a dinner at the G-20 Summit in Bali in November 2022.

Ties have been strained since tensions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) following China's multiple transgressions starting in April 2020. India has stressed that there cannot be normalcy in relations until disengagement is completed in two remaining friction points. Both sides have disengaged in five friction points, creating buffer zones in some of them.

While India has described ties as "abnormal" with the as yet unresolved border situation, Chinese officials in recent statements have portrayed relations as gradually returning to the normal track and have called India to keep the border in an "appropriate" position.

The unusual delay in appointing an Ambassador, however, has not been explained. Some observers have seen the delay as messaging to India and referring to its contention of ties being "abnormal".

Beijing could also be weighing its options in finding the right appointment, given the added significance of essentially appointing a new Vice Foreign Minister rank official.

Among Beijing's "India hands" who could be considered candidates is Huang Xilian, current envoy to the Philippines, who has been in the post since December 2019 and is nearing the end of his term in Manila.

Another senior diplomat familiar with India is the current envoy in Australia Xiao Qian, who, however, took up his current posting only in January 2022. Experience in India is not, however, a requisite, and Mr. Xi has, for other key appointments, prioritised officials he has familiarity with.

Assistant Foreign Minister Hua Chunying who heads the Information Department and is a former spokesperson is among those expected to be shortly up for key ambassadorial postings.

The Foreign Ministry in Beijing has recently been cast in turmoil after the sudden removal of Foreign Minister Qin Gang only seven months after he was promoted to the post by Mr. Xi.

The removal, which still has not been explained, came as a shock to even members of China's diplomatic corps, many of whom remain in the dark about why Mr. Qin was removed. No explanation has even been offered internally.

Former Foreign Minister Wang Yi was brought back to take up the additional charge of the Ministry and to bring stability amid the turmoil. Mr. Wang, a Politburo member, also heads the office of the Communist Party's Central Foreign Affairs Commission, and last month, held talks with both National Security Adviser Ajit Doval in Johannesburg and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in Jakarta.

SC judge recuses from hearing Umar Khalid's plea

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Supreme Court judge Justice P.K. Mishra on Wednesday withdrew from hearing a petition for bail filed by former Jawaharlal Nehru University student leader Umar Khalid in an Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) case linked to the February 2020 Delhi riots case.

The lead judge on the Division Bench, Justice A.S. Bopanna, referred the case back to the Chief Justice of India for listing it before another Bench.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal has been pointing out that his client has been in jail for over two years.

Mr. Khalid is accused of being part of a "larger conspiracy" behind the communal violence.

J&K Constitution limited executive powers of Union of India, says SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked why the Union of India, the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir or the political establishment in the rest of the country had never bothered to bring the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir "expressly" within the fold of the Constitution of India.

The court said the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution had, over the years, limited the executive powers of the Union of India and restricted the legislative reach of Parliament.

"Post 1957, neither the government nor the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir nor for that matter the political establishment in the rest of the country thought of amending the Indian Constitution to bring the Jammu and Kashmir Constitution expressly within the fold of the Indian Constitution," Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, heading a Constitution Bench, addressed senior advocate Gopal Subramanium, who is appearing for a petitioner.

> Was it necessary to amend Indian Constitution to recognise some other Constitution? Was it necessary to impose fetters on the power of the Parliament?
>
> **D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**
> Chief Justice of India

The Bench is hearing a series of petitions challenging the dilution of Article 370. Presidential orders, in August 2019, had rendered infructuous the J&K Constitution and Article 35A, which was introduced into the Indian Constitution through the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954.

"Was it at all necessary to amend the Indian Constitution in order to recognise some other Constitution? Was it necessary to impose fetters on the power of the Parliament," the Chief Justice asked.

Mr. Subramanium said "the Constitution of India and the Constitution of J&K spoke to each other". Their existence complemented each other.

He argued that Article 370 required a valid, elected State government in the State at the time of its abrogation. "Article 370 is federal in nature. It requires an elected State government on one side and the Union on the other side".

But the CJI said Parliament and the President assume the roles of the State Assembly and the State government, respectively, after the proclamation of Emergency under Article 356. The powers of these two institutions are not denuded. "Otherwise, what will happen if an Ordinance has to be promulgated in the State during an emergency..." he asked.

Brij Bhushan urges court not to frame charges

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Outgoing Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, an accused in a case of alleged sexual harassment of women wrestlers, submitted in a Delhi court that "hugging or touching a woman without sexual intent is not an offence".

Mr. Singh's submission came on the first day of a hearing on Wednesday to decide if charges need to be framed against him in the case.

Mr. Singh, who was present in the court of Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Harjeet Singh Jaspal, opposed the framing of charges against him through his lawyer, advocate Rajiv Mohan.

Detained on way to rally, says Tushar Gandhi

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Tushar Gandhi, the great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, alleged on Wednesday that the Mumbai Police detained him as he was leaving his house to commemorate Quit India Day at August Kranti Maidan here.

Social activist Teesta Setalvad said in a social media post that she was also prevented from leaving her residence.

They were all slated to participate in a 'Shanti March' from Girgaon Chowpatty to the August Kranti Maidan. However, police permission was denied for the rally.

"For the first time in the history of Independent India, I have been detained at Santa Cruz Police Station as I left home to commemorate 9th August Quit India Day. I am proud my great-grandparents Bapu and Ba had also been arrested by the British Police on this historic date," Mr. Gandhi posted on the microblogging platform X (formerly Twitter).

Ro Khanna to raise human rights issues during India visit: U.S. civil rights groups

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Discussions on human rights will be on the agenda when a high-powered delegation of U.S. members of Congress visits Delhi next week, indicated a group of India-focused civil rights groups that met with U.S. congressman Ro Khanna, who is leading the delegation.

Mr. Khanna, who met with representatives of a "coalition of Indian-American organisations" including Hindus for human rights, the Indian-American Muslim Council, and India Civil Watch International in Washington, reportedly "expressed his desire to protect minority rights in India".

This week, Mr. Khanna announced that he would lead a bipartisan congressional delegation to India that had been invited to attend Prime Minister Narendra Modi's annual Independence Day speech at the Red Fort on August 15.

During the visit, the delegation will meet Mr. Modi, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and other Ministers.

Ro Khanna

Mr. Khanna, who is seen as a leading "progressive Democrat", is the first Indian-American to co-chair the U.S. Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, along with Republican Congressman Michael Waltz.

"For Ro [Khanna], it is also a personally meaningful time to visit because his grandfather spent his life fighting for [India's Independence]", the Congressman's spokesperson told *The Hindu* adding that he would engage on issues including "decarbonization, digitalization, economic partnership, defense ties, pluralism, and human rights" during the "historical" trip that would "celebrate the link between America and India's Independence and continue to deepen the partnership".

The delegation's visit comes two months after Mr. Modi's state visit to the U.S. and a month before U.S. President Biden will visit India for the first time in his tenure, to attend the G-20 summit.

According to the coalition of groups that met him, Mr. Khanna listened to testimonies from a number of civil society activists, many of whom had participated in protests during Prime Minister Modi's visit to New York and Washington in June, and particularly raised "concerns" over democratic freedoms, the treatment of minorities, and caste discrimination in India.

Manipur HC notice to govts., Assam Rifles over contempt plea

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The Manipur High Court on Wednesday issued notices to top bureaucrats and police officers of the Manipur government, the Union Home Secretary, the General Officer Commander in-charge of the Indian Army's Eastern Command, and an Inspector-General of the Assam Rifles (AR-South) on a contempt petition filed by a Meitei body.

The International Meeteis Forum (IMF) had filed a contempt petition before the Manipur High Court alleging that a mob of "Kuki men and women" coming from Churachandpur had vandalised and razed government structures inside the complex where they intended to bury 35 of their dead despite the presence of the 9th Assam Rifles, the CRPF, and other Central paramilitary forces.

The petitioners said that this had happened as tensions were rising and violence flared up again in the buffer zone between Churachandpur and Bishnupur districts on August 5. The IMF went on to say that this was a violation of the High Court's 6 a.m. order on August 3, which directed all security forces to ensure *status quo* on the proposed burial site.

A Bench of Acting Chief Justice MV Muralidharan and Justice A Guneshwar Sharma admitted the petition on Wednesday and issued notices to all government respondents, posting the matter for next hearing on August 30.

The IMF is the same body that had filed a PIL on August 2, seeking to stop the planned mass burial.

The petitioners had contended that the proposed burial site at S. Boljang of Haolai Khopi village, Churachandpur, was inside a government complex where a sericulture farm is run and that the land is government-notified.

Sources said that the reason for the Kuki-Zo people insisting on the site was its location. Because it is located along the highway leading into Churachandpur district, it would be the first thing one sees while entering the district.

Confidence or no-confidence

As the Narendra Modi government faces a no-confidence motion, a look at such motions moved in the past

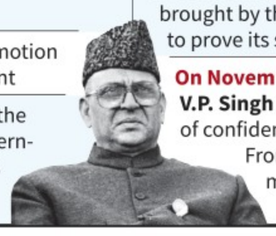
What is a no-confidence motion?
It is a formal proposal moved under Rule 198 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha

28 The number of no-confidence motions admitted in the Lower House

15 The highest number of no-confidence motions was against governments led by **Indira Gandhi**

1 The only time a no-confidence motion triggered the fall of a government

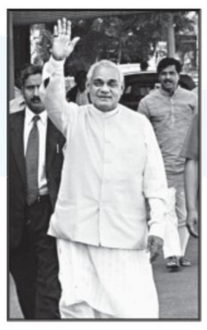
- In 1979, a motion moved against the **Morarji Desai**-led Janata Party government led to his resignation, even as the debate remained inconclusive



and there was no voting

3 The number of governments that fell during the motion of confidence, which is a motion brought by the government to prove its strength

On November 7, 1990, **V.P. Singh** moved a motion of confidence for his National Front government. The motion was defeated



after the BJP withdrew its support over the Ram temple issue. He lost the motion by 142 votes to 346 votes

- In 1997, the **H.D. Deve Gowda**-led United Front government lost a vote of confidence on April 11
- After coming to power in 1998, **Atal Bihari Vajpayee** moved a confidence motion, which he lost by one vote on April 17, 1999 due to the withdrawal of support by the AIADMK

Close contest: Then Prime Minister **P.V. Narasimha Rao** leaving Parliament House after the no- confidence motion tabled by Atal Bihari Vajpayee was defeated on December 21, 1992. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Irani remarks tantamount to contempt of court: Omar

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister and National Conference (NC) vice-president Omar Abdullah on Wednesday said the remarks of Union Minister Smriti Irani over Article 370 in Parliament were "tantamount to contempt of court".

"A Union Minister is threatening the court. I am surprised to see the responsible person saying the BJP will not allow restoration of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir. The Supreme Court is hearing the case. We are waiting for the judgment. The BJP too should," he said.

He said the NC was hopeful of a positive outcome in the court. "Does the BJP fear that their case is too weak? The remarks [will not allow restoration of Article 370] are tantamount to contempt of court," Mr. Abdullah said.

NC leader Tanvir Sadiq said, "How can she anticipate the decisions of the esteemed judges while the case is still under consideration in the Supreme Court? Such a display of arrogance."

Bharat Mata has always stood tall in the face of attack, says Smriti Irani

Minister attacks Rahul Gandhi for his remarks, saying it was the first time in parliamentary history that someone had made such comments; Irani targets Opposition by saying that many non-BJP-ruled States too had welcomed the Adani Group

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Minister Smriti Irani, who spoke immediately after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's speech in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, said it was the first time in parliamentary history that someone had made such a statement about Bharat Mata (Mother India).

As Opposition members started chanting "Rahul" interspersed with INDIA, to refer to the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance, soon after Mr. Gandhi finished his speech, Ms. Irani shot back, "You are not India; for India, is not corrupt. India believes in merit, not dynasty. You define corruption and incompetence."

In an equally fierce response, Ms. Irani said Bharat Mata had always stood tall in the face of attack, be it from the Mughal empire or the colonial powers.

This is the first time in Parliament's history that someone talked about Bharat Mata in such a way, and Congress leaders were thumping the desks, Ms. Irani said, adding that the comment showed who they were.

Point of view: Union Minister Smriti Irani speaks to the media on the Parliament premises during the Monsoon Session on Wednesday. ANI

Integral part of India

Asserting that Manipur is "an integral part of India", she said, "A member of this [Opposition] alliance said in Tamil Nadu that India only means North India. If he has the courage, Rahul Gandhi should comment on this. Another Congress leader said there should be a referendum on Kashmir. Was the statement given as per the order of the Congress leadership that a leader talked about a referendum in Kashmir?"

She accused the Congress leader of trying to take "political advantage" by effecting a mass upsurge and alleged that he had travelled abroad to seek support.

At the end of her speech, which went on for more than an hour, Mr. Irani said the Bharatiya Janata Party would return to power in 2024, adding that "*Desh, tijori ki chabi unki mata ji ko nahi degi* [people will not again give the keys of the treasury to his mother]."

Violence against women

Ms. Irani raised the violence against women during Emergency, the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and the violence against Pandits in Kashmir. "Their history is soaked in blood," the Minister for Women and Child Development said.

Talking about a gang rape and murder in Rajasthan and the rape of a 60-year-old woman in front of her grandchild in West Bengal, Ms. Irani asked why Opposition leaders did not raise these issues of violence against women in these States. She targeted the Congress over the Adani Group, and listed how the Congress governments in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh and the non-BJP governments in Kerala and West Bengal had welcomed the group. She said the Mundra port in Gujarat was given to the group when the Congress was in power.

INBRIEF

Tharoor hails Rahul Gandhi's LS speech as 'barnstorming'

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Wednesday hailed Rahul Gandhi's speech during the no-confidence motion in the Lok Sabha as "barnstorming" while claiming that Union Minister Smriti Irani's remarks in the Lower House focused on "whataboutery" that amounted to an "own-goal". "Lively scenes in the Lok Sabha during & following Rahul Gandhi's barnstorming speech in support of the no-confidence motion. Smriti Irani's response focused entirely on whataboutery, reciting a series of incidents & atrocities, going back many decades, under Congress rule, that she claimed proved that things were just as bad earlier," he said on X, formerly known as Twitter. PTI

Complaint against Chadha sent to privileges committee

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has directed the Privileges Committee to examine the complaints of four MPs who have accused AAP member Raghav Chadha of proposing their name for a House panel without their consent, in violation of rules. A Rajya Sabha bulletin said the Chairman had received complaints from Sasmit Patra, S. Phangnon Konyak, M. Thambidurai and Narhari Amin.

Women BJP MPs submit written complaint to Speaker

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

On a day of high-pitched battles in the Lok Sabha, women MPs of the BJP accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of making an "inappropriate gesture" by blowing a flying kiss towards Union Minister Smriti Irani and gave a written complaint to Speaker Om Birla.

Rahul Gandhi

The complaint was signed by more than 20 women MPs, including Union Ministers Shobha Karandlaje and Darshana Jardosh.

"We demand stringent action against such behaviour by the Member which has not only insulted the dignity of the women members in the House but has also brought disrepute and lowered the dignity of this august House," they said in their complaint.

Though not caught on camera, Mr. Gandhi was walking out of the House after completing his speech when Ms. Irani started speaking. Members of the Treasury benches shouted at him to stay back and listen to the Minister's speech.

He was then in the passage leading to the exit and was picking up a sheaf of papers that fell off the file he was holding. He turned around towards the Treasury benches and gave a flying kiss and a smile before walking out.

Raising the matter in her speech during the no-confidence debate, Ms. Irani said, "The person who spoke before me... an indecent gesture was made... only a misogynistic man can give a flying kiss to Parliament which seats female Members of Parliament... such indecent act has not been witnessed by the House ever before. The entire country has seen the culture of the [Gandhi] family."

Congress MP Geeta Kauda defended Mr. Gandhi, saying that he can never be insulting to women. She said the BJP had a habit of distorting issues to divert people's attention.

Sansad TV

The Congress complained of bias and said Mr. Gandhi spoke for close to 40 minutes but the cameras of Sansad TV hardly focused on him.

"In his first speech after coming back from the unjustified disqualification, @RahulGandhi spoke from 12:09pm to 12:46pm i.e. 37 minutes during the No-Confidence Motion. Out of which the Sansad TV camera showed him for ONLY 14 mins 37 seconds. That's less than 40% screen time! What is Mr. Modi afraid of?" Congress communication chief Jairam Ramesh wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

Double-engine govt. stood as a mute spectator: Kanimozhi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi on Wednesday said while Manipur was being rocked by violence, the "double-engine" government of the BJP at the Centre and the State stood "hand-in-hand" watching.

"The silence of the Union government, the Prime Minister [Narendra Modi], and the inaction of the State government which watched as houses were burnt, the armoury was looted and people killed each other, women were being humiliated, stripped, paraded, violated and killed... this 'double engine' stood hand-in-hand watching and saying 'brothers are fighting'," the DMK leader said, participating in a discussion on the no-confidence motion against the Modi government in the Lok Sabha.

K. Kanimozhi

Asserting that the government had failed the people of Manipur, the Thoothukkudi MP said it was the first time that the judiciary had to intervene to protect the State.

She was referring to the Supreme Court order on setting up of a committee of three former women High Court judges to oversee the relief and rehabilitation of victims in Manipur and award compensation to them.

Ms. Kanimozhi, who visited Manipur as part of Opposition INDIA delegation, said that as in the Mahabharata, both the perpetrators and those who were silent spectators in the clashes would be punished by the people of India.

Despair, despondency

"Whether it is Kuki, Nagas or Meiteis, we only saw despair and despondency in their eyes. I request the Prime Minister and the Central government to reach out to the people and say that we care and justice will be done...We would like to know whether the government stands with them," she said.

While she was speaking, DMK MPs alleged that the Lok Sabha TV camera was not focusing on Ms. Kanimozhi and was instead showing Kirit Solanki, who was in the Chair.

Rajya Sabha passes four Bills as Opposition stages walkout

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Opposition walked out demanding a discussion on Manipur violence

The Rajya Sabha on Wednesday passed the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, and the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill.

The four Bills were discussed and passed after the Opposition walked out demanding a discussion on Manipur violence.

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, which was first taken up, was to add two synonyms for the Mahar community in Chhattisgarh to the State's list of Scheduled Castes. The Bill adds "Mahara" and "Mahra" as synonyms of the Mahar community. "The proposed legislation will help expand the benefits of government schemes and benefits meant for Scheduled Castes in the State to around two lakh more people," Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Virendra Kumar said.

The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on Monday, was passed in the Upper House in 40 minutes. Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said the Bill was historic and the Centre was ready for constructive inputs from the Opposition too on the Bill.

The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill was piloted by IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. Amendments moved by the Opposition members were not considered in their absence.

The Upper House also passed the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, moved by Parshottam Rupala, Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

The Bill, according to the Centre, provides for broadbasing "coastal aquaculture" to comprehensively cover all activities of coastal aquaculture under the purview of the law and to remove the ambiguity existing in the principal Act between the farm and other verticals of coastal aquaculture.

"This is likely to ensure that no coastal aquaculture activity is left out of the ambit of the Act and operate in an environmentally hazardous manner," the Ministry said.

Manipur debate in Rajya Sabha lost in a maze of rules

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

With just two sittings remaining in the Monsoon Session of Parliament, the debate on Manipur is unlikely to be held in the Rajya Sabha, with the government and the Opposition sticking to their respective positions.

Both sides claim that they want the subject to be debated but have differed on the rule under which it can be taken up. The government, according to sources, will still try to push through a debate on Friday, the last day of the session.

The debate is lost in the complicated maze of parliamentary rules. The Opposition's original demand was to hold the debate under Rule 267, which requires suspending the day's business and stipulates the Prime Minister's presence in the House. The government insisted on a debate under Rule 176, which entails a short-duration discussion.

On August 3, the Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha, Piyush Goyal, and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi walked to the Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge's room to broker a truce. At the meeting, where floor leaders of all the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) parties were present, a "middle path" was offered to have a debate under a "mutually negotiated" resolution under Rule 167. But this "middle path" too was abandoned on the question of dates and the resolution was not drafted.

Chaos continues: Opposition members protest over the Manipur issue in the Rajya Sabha on Monday. ANI

Sources said that on Friday, the debate will begin under Rule 176 as it had been first proposed, with Home Minister Amit Shah replying to it. Mr. Shah has already said on the floor of the Upper House that he was tied up in the Lok Sabha with the Opposition sponsored no-confidence motion and would be available only on Friday.

Trinamool Congress floor leader Derek O'Brien said the Opposition was prepared for the debate, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi's presence was still non-negotiable.

"The government is responsible for the logjam. The Prime Minister has stayed out of Parliament since July 20 till today.It is a pathetic state of affairs if we have to force and drag him to come to the Lok Sabha by moving a no-confidence motion," Mr. O'Brien said.

"We are ready for a debate, even if the Prime Minster just lays a statement and the Home Minister can later reply to the debate," he added.

INBRIEF

Don't speak to media on ASI survey in Gyanvapi: court

The Varanasi district court on Wednesday asked the Hindu and Muslim sides to refrain from any kind of media interaction related to the ongoing Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) survey inside the Gyanvapi mosque premises. The order came during the hearing of a plea by the Anjuman Intezamia mosque committee that sought a direction to restrain the media from publishing "false news" about the survey. It also approached the court seeking to stop the survey on the grounds that the Hindu plaintiffs have failed to deposit the money to bear expenses for the survey. The plaintiffs will file their reply on August 17, confirmed their lawyers.

CBI works with Interpol to arrest bank fraud convict

The CBI has arrested a person convicted in a bank fraud case after securing his return from the United States in close coordination with the Interpol. A Red Notice had been issued against T. Ravindranath Gupta on April 4. According to the CBI, the case was registered three decades ago, against some officials of the Bank of Maharashtra and private persons, including Mr. Gupta, on the allegation that he colluded with them to cheat banks and non-banking financial companies in Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru, of about ₹1.36 crore in 1993. They were convicted by the trial court on July 30, 2010, and sentenced to three years in jail.

NMC tells overseas students to ensure adherence to norms

The National Medical Commission has cautioned students pursuing undergraduate medical courses abroad to strictly follow the duration of study, medium of instruction, syllabus, clinical training, or internship/clerkship prescribed by it, or be disqualified from registering or work in India. The panel said it has published the Foreign Medical Graduate Licentiates Regulations, 2021. "These conditions are mandatory for registration to practise allopathy in India," it said. The curriculum, time frame and training of students in universities abroad are not in consonance with norms in India, the panel added.

Press bodies express concern over 'campaign' against portal

The Press Club of India and the Indian Women's Press Corps on Wednesday expressed concern over what they termed a targeted campaign against the news portal Newsclick and its founders. The recent accusations levelled by some senior political figures, including MPs, against the portal are unwarranted and condemnable, they said in a joint statement. The press bodies said media organisations functioned within the confines of law, and it was equally important for government agencies to adhere to these standards. A thriving democracy necessitated that media outlets, regardless of their affiliations, had the freedom to operate without government or corporate pressures.

Rajya Sabha passes Digital Personal Data Protection Bill

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023, was passed by the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday, after most Opposition MPs staged a walkout. The Bill was supported by MPs from the NDA, the Biju Janata Dal and the YSR Congress Party.

The Bill sets out norms for data processing digitally for firms, creates an adjudicatory mechanism for resolving disputes, and provides for the creation of a Data Protection Board of India. Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw said that these provisions would be put into motion over the coming six to 10 months, though it may happen faster than that.

"The Bill, instead of protecting the right to privacy of Indian citizens, prioritises putting into place a regime that facilitates the processing of personal data by state and private actors," the Internet Freedom Foundation said in a statement. "We are disappointed with the version of the Bill that may ultimately become India's data protection legislation."

To curb price rise, Centre to release more foodgrain stock by open market sale

Govt. hopes the measure will ensure adequate domestic availability of rice, wheat and *atta*; it plans to bring down reserve price of rice by ₹200 a quintal, which will now be ₹2,900 a quintal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Concerned over the increase in prices of foodgrains, the Centre on Wednesday decided to additionally sell 50 lakh tonnes of wheat and 25 lt of rice through the Open Market Sales Scheme for Food Corporation of India stocks.

The government hoped that the sale would ensure adequate domestic availability of rice, wheat and *atta* and check their prices.

Union Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra told pressmen that the Centre had also decided to bring down the reserve price of rice by ₹200 a quintal – the effective price now would be ₹2,900 a quintal.

The cost of this reduction would be adjusted from the price stabilisation fund of the Department of Consumer Affairs. The price of wheat has gone up by 6.77% in retail market and 7.37% in wholesale market in the past one year and in the case of rice, the increase is 10.63% and 11.12%, respectively. The Centre said that the step will help 140 crore people.

In check: The Centre says that 7-8 lakh tonne of wheat has been auctioned under the Open Market Sales Scheme. FILE PHOTO

Wheat import duty

Asked about the possibility to reduce the wheat import duty, Mr. Chopra said the Centre would take a decision based on the requirements. "Prices of two commodities have been in the news for the past couple of months because of the rising trend that we are noticing," he said. The new limit is over and above the 15 lt of wheat and 5 lt of rice being sold through the OMSS.

About 7-8 lakh tonne of wheat has been auctioned under the OMSS so far, while rice sale is negligible, he said. He added that these measures would not only improve the availability in the market but also help cool down the prices and control food inflation. "The ultimate objective is to keep the food inflation under check," he said.

FCI Chairman and Managing Director Ashok K. Meena, who was present at the press conference along with Union Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh, said seven e-auctions had been conducted so far.

"Initially, wheat offered for sale used to be 4 lakh tonnes and now, it has been reduced to 1 lakh tonne in today's e-auction. About 8 lakh tonnes of wheat has been sold till date," he said. He added that the weighted average selling price of wheat on June 28 was ₹2,136.36 a quintal, which had now gone up to ₹2,254.71 a quintal.

"This shows there is an increase in the market demand for wheat," he added. On buffer stocks, he said the FCI had additional 87 lakh tonnes of wheat and 217 lakh tonnes of rice available above buffer norms.

Centre warns staff against taking part in protest march

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union government on Wednesday warned government employees against participating in a rally to demand the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS).

An order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said "any employee going on strike in any form, including protest, would face the consequences which, besides deduction of wages, may also include appropriate disciplinary action."

Restoration of OPS is a key electoral issue. The NPS is a contributory pension scheme with matching contribution from the government and is market-linked, while the OPS assures life-long income, post-retirement, usually equivalent to 50% of the last-drawn salary. Employees who joined service from 2004 were mandatorily enrolled in the NPS.

The DoPT said the right to form an association does not include any guaranteed right to strike. "There is no statutory provision empowering the employees to go on strike," the order said.

Health Ministry defends PMJAY as CAG audit exposes multiple frauds

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

With the Centre's flagship health insurance scheme taking fire over irregularities exposed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General this week, the Health Ministry defended the scheme on Wednesday, saying that mobile numbers did not play any role in the verification of its beneficiaries.

The CAG's performance audit report, tabled in the Lok Sabha on Monday, noted multiple cases of the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) providing treatment for patients who had been declared dead, as well as for thousands of people using the same Aadhaar or invalid mobile phone number.

For instance, almost 7.5 lakh people in the scheme's beneficiary database were linked with a single cellphone number: 9999999999. In Tamil Nadu, 4,761 registrations were made against just seven Aadhaar numbers.

In its statement, the Health Ministry said that the scheme only used mobile numbers to reach out to the beneficiaries in case of any need and for collecting feedback regarding the treatment, rather than for any verification purposes.

"AB-PMJAY identifies the beneficiary through Aadhaar identification wherein the beneficiary undergoes the process of mandatory Aadhaar-based e-KYC. The details fetched from the Aadhaar database are matched with the source database and accordingly, the request for Ayushman card is approved or rejected based on the beneficiary details," the Ministry said.

It explained that treatment to beneficiaries could not be withheld just because they do not carry a valid mobile number, or the mobile number had changed.

On the use of the same mobile number by multiple beneficiaries, the Ministry noted that initially it was not a mandatory field during beneficiary verification, and therefore, mobile number was not validated in the process.

This would not impact either the correctness of the beneficiary verification process or the validity of the beneficiaries' claim, it said. Necessary changes have been made in the current IT portal used by the National Health Authority to capture only valid mobile numbers, in case the same is possessed by the beneficiary, it said.

House panel tells govt. to ensure fertilizer availability, increase local production

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Standing Committee of Parliament on Chemicals and Fertilizers, headed by senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, in its two reports tabled here on Wednesday, has posed questions on the availability of fertilizers and a subsidy policy.

The reports have also called for ending the import dependence on fertilizers such as urea, diammonium phosphate (DAP), muriate of potash (MOP), and nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium (NPK). The production of these fertilizers up to November 2022 was 281.83 lakh tonnes but the consumption was 401.46 lt.

"Thus, there was a deficit of 119.63 lt for all types of fertilizers in the country, which is worrisome," the panel said.

Yielding solutions: The panel asked the Department of Fertilizers to ascertain the reasons for a shortage of fertilizers. FILE PHOTO

The panel asked the Department of Fertilizers to ascertain the reasons for a shortage of fertilizers being reported in some of the States and ensure availability of fertilizers in every State by taking corrective steps.

The panel sought the review of a nutrient-based subsidy (NBS) that covers fertilizers such as P&K fertilizers. "Urea is left out of the scheme and hence it remains under price control whereas technically there is no price control in other fertilisers," the panel said, recommending the Centre to review the present NBS policy to remove the disincentives for farmers to use other fertilizers.

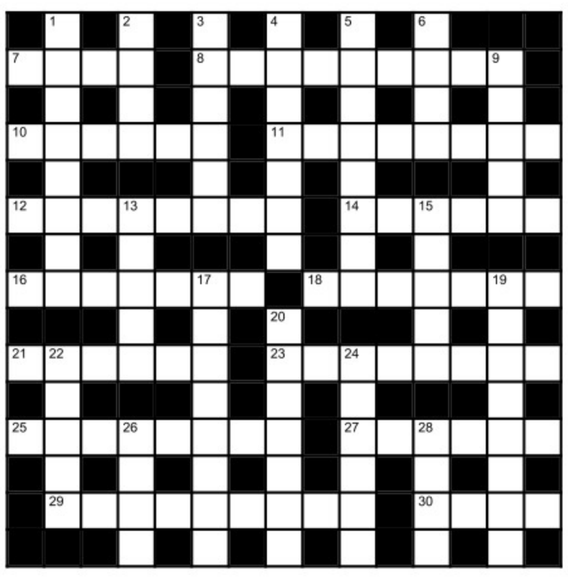
The committee noted that GST for fertilizers is at 5% and GST on raw materials such as sulphuric acid and ammonia are at 18%. "The committee failed to understand this anomaly," the report added.

TH CROSSWORD + 13940

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 Disloyal, throwing out dill and some beans (4)
8 Source of oil? Tun! (9)
10 Endlessly inform heads of Ugandan government university in Indian language (6)
11 Eleven, sequentially... (3,2,3)
12 Amir dances in wrinkled suit and gets dessert (8)
14 Put an end to a kind of whiskey (6)
16 A boy accompanied by noise? He's a story book hero (7)
18 Organise armies including new specialised soldiers (7)
21 Tin with LED arrangement? It can give light! (6)
23 Snakes repent crawling around in ship (8)
25 Completely break down and destroy limo shed (8)
27 Small de-husked seed containing some aromatic matter initially mentioned in famous opening phrase (6)
29 So wren flu is a result of dispersal of this seed? (9)
30 Presbyterian has a small quantity of information (4)

Down

1 Raw material to make a mountain? (8)
2 Bank in front of youth centre releases last instalment of loan for capital (4)
3 Rodent having a disease on island (6)
4 Commanding officers return cask and palm fruit (7)
5 Endures a collapse below the surface of large expanse of water (8)
6 Jealousy displayed by Yankee following English victor (4)
9 Hundred and ninety nine produce stimulant (5)
13 Continued, "... dead wrong about dead-end" (5)
15 I love crushed fruit (5)
17 Crabs removed from indescribable preparation can't be eaten (8)
19 Guess mate's tie is crooked (8)
20 Avoids sweetheart carrying cashew-nuts after losing a squabble initially (7)
22 Helps in crime, throwing dope from damaged speedboat (5)
24 Engineers type, "Place for rest and recreation" (6)
26 Has title to a part of township (4)
28 Boy mentioned in emergency message cries (4)

SUDOKU

	6	7		3				
4			2			5		7
	3	5		1	7			
9								
	5	4				3	1	
								9
			6	8		7	2	
6		2			4			5
				5		8	6	

No.SS5884 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	L	S	A	S	G	P	C		
W	O	R	N	P	E	T	E	R	O	M	A	N
	K	A	P	A	E	S	M		
P	I	C	K	L	E	S	H	A	N	T	I	E	S
		E	A	H	T	E			
O	F	C	O	U	R	S	E	A	C	R	O	S	S
	R	I		S	P		T		
F	A	L	L	F	O	R	L	E	B	A	N	O	N
	U			P	S		N	N	
E	D	I	B	L	E	U	N	B	I	D	D	E	N
		O	N	R	O	R			
F	A	R	T	H	I	N	G	G	L	O	V	E	S
	L	H	N	E	O	G	A		
H	E	R	E	G	H	O	S	T	E	U	R	O	
	S	R	S	N	A	N	L		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	2	9	5	8	6	7	1	4
7	4	5	3	1	2	6	9	8
6	1	8	7	9	4	5	3	2
2	3	1	6	5	8	9	4	7
9	8	6	1	4	7	2	5	3
4	5	7	9	2	3	1	8	6
5	7	2	8	3	1	4	6	9
1	6	3	4	7	9	8	2	5
8	9	4	2	6	5	3	7	1

FAITH

Murugan, known for beauty

The Tamil kriti *Muruganin maru peyar azhaghu* is popular for a reason. Murugan is synonymous with beauty and if you look around on any hill, you will be enchanted by its beauty and majesty, as it is the abode of Lord Murugan, said Suchithra Balasubramanian in a discourse. He appeared on earth to show us how to navigate the stages of life.

Tamil work *Tirumurugattupadai* details the six abodes of Murugan, also known as Karthikeya, Subramanya and Kumara, among others. He emanated as sparks from the eyelashes of Lord Siva settled on six lotuses in a pond whereupon He was infused together as Shanmuga by Sakti. He was raised by the Kartigai girls and that star is a blessed one. Aadi Kartigai is a very sacred one, for it is the month in which many pray to Parvati for Her blessings.

Murugan showed devotees how to navigate life. As a child, when His hard work of circumventing the world is lost to the smart work of Vinayaka, who goes around His parents and claims the prize of an undivided fruit gifted by Narada, Murugan forsakes everything. He shows us that we can always begin afresh whenever we encounter a setback in life, with full faith in Him. We should recollect each of His sojourns on hills on Aadi Karthigai and seek His blessings to lead a beautiful life.

INBRIEF

Mercedes-Benz unveils new GLC luxury SUV at ₹73.5 lakh

Mercedes-Benz India on Wednesday introduced the second generation luxury SUV, the new GLC, at ₹73.5 lakh (all India ex-showroom). The vehicle will be offered with two powertrains namely GLC 300 4MATIC (Petrol) and Diesel GLC 220d 4MATIC (Diesel). The new GLC has garnered more than 1,500 bookings, the company said. The GLC is Mercedes-Benz India's highest selling luxury SUV, with more than 13,000 units sold since its debut.

Axis Bank to infuse ₹16.12 bn to raise stake in Max Life

Axis Bank on Wednesday said it will raise its stake in insurer Max Life to 16.2% from 9.99% by infusing ₹16.12 billion ($194.6 million) through a preferential allotment of shares. Axis Bank, along with its entities, acquired a 12.99% stake in Max Life in 2021, and through this new investment they will own 19.02% in the insurer. The proposed infusion by Axis Bank in Max Life will help it to support its future growth ambitions, Max Financial Services said. REUTERS

Kalyan Jewellers Q1 PAT rises 33% to ₹144 crore

Kalyan Jewellers India on Wednesday reported 33% increase in consolidated profit after tax (PAT) to ₹144 crore for the June quarter. PAT stood at ₹108 crore in the year-earlier period, Kalyan Jewellers said in a regulatory filing. Revenue rose 31% to ₹4,376 crore as against ₹3,333 crore in the corresponding period of the previous year. India operations recorded a PAT of ₹129 crore for the quarter compared with ₹95 crore a year earlier. PTI

IT security incident dents Granules Q1 net, revenue

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Granules India reported consolidated net profit slid more than 62% y-o-y to ₹48 crore during Q1, on a 3% drop in revenue from operations to ₹985.51 crore. "Q1 sales and PAT were impacted severely by the business interruption caused by the IT incident," CMD Krishna Prasad Chigurupati said.

China's economy tips into deflation

The consumer price index dropped 0.3% year-on-year in July, China's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) says; CPI declines for the first time since February 2021; Producer price index (PPI) declines for a 10th consecutive month, shrinking 4.4%

Reuters
BEIJING

China's consumer sector fell into deflation and factory-gate prices extended declines in July, as the world's second-largest economy struggled to revive demand and pressure mounted for Beijing to release more policy stimulus.

Anxiety is rising that China is entering an era of much slower economic growth akin to the period of Japan's "lost decades", which saw consumer prices and wages stagnate for a generation, a stark contrast to the rapid inflation seen elsewhere.

Demand deficit: Pressure is mounting for Beijing to release more direct policy stimulus in the world's second-largest economy. AFP

The consumer price index (CPI) dropped 0.3% year-on-year in July, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said on Wednesday, compared with the median estimate for a 0.4% decrease in a Reuters poll. It was the first decline since February 2021. The producer price index (PPI) declined for a 10th consecutive month, down 4.4%.

'Two-speed growth'

"For China, the divergence between manufacturing and services is increasingly apparent, meaning the economy will grow at two speeds in the rest of 2023, especially as the problem in real estate re-emerges," said Gary Ng, Asia Pacific senior economist at Natixis. "It also shows China's slower-than-expected economic rebound is not strong enough to offset the weaker global demand and lift commodity prices."

The data followed trade figures showing exports and imports fell in July.

Beijing has set a consumer inflation target of about 3% this year, and authorities are downplaying concerns about deflation. On a month-on-month basis, the CPI actually rose 0.2%.

FinMin warns against frauds in the name of Customs

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry on Wednesday cautioned people against fraudsters extorting money in the name of Indian Customs.

"Indian Customs never calls or sends SMS... All communication from Indian Customs contain a DIN which can be verified on CBIC website," it said.

Life insurers' new business declines 29% in July led by LIC

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

A more than 47% year-on-year decline in the first-year premium of market leader Life Insurance Corporation of India to ₹15,386.57 crore, weighed down life insurers' performance in July.

Private sector resilience

Overall, life insurers reported a 28.7% decline in first-year premium at ₹27,867.10 crore.

Private life insurance companies clocked a 25.3% increase with a first-year premium of ₹12,480.53 crore, according to the July new business statement released by the insurance regulator IRDAI on Wednesday.

For the four months ended July, life insurers' first-year premium was 10.5% lower at ₹1,00,871.97 crore. While LIC reported a 22.1% decline to ₹60,223.77 crore, private players recorded an increase of 14.7% to ₹40,648.20 crore, the IRDAI data showed.

'Two-wheeler EV firms face ₹9,000 cr. loss over subsidies'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Seven electric two-wheeler companies have suffered a cumulative loss of over ₹9,000 crore on account of unpaid dues and loss of market after their subsidies were stopped last year, the Society of Manufacturers of Electric Vehicles (SMEV) said on Wednesday.

Bed linen firm Indo Count eyes doubling revenue in 3-4 years

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Indo Count Industries Ltd., which produces and exports bed linen to more than 50 countries, has embarked on a strategy to double its revenue in three to four years, said Executive Director and CEO K.K. Lalpuria.

"In FY23, we reported revenues of ₹3,000 crore on 50% capacity utilisation," he said in an interview. "We can now almost double our revenue from ₹3,000 crore to ₹6,000 crore in three to four years," Mr. Lalpuria added.

"We have indicated that we will be making most of our capacity utilisation in the next three to four years and that's the reason we have given guidance that we will double our revenues in next three, four years," he said.

Stating that exports were growing year on year, he said the various Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) the government was signing with various countries would help boost exports.

He said the China Plus One strategy would help Indian companies to grab more market share in the international markets.

"We have been very successful in Australia, UAE post the FTAs," he said.

E.I.D Parry swung to ₹46-crore loss in Q1

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

E.I.D. Parry India Ltd. slid to a loss of ₹46 crore in the June quarter on lower sales volume and higher costs.

The sugar major had posted a standalone net profit of ₹13 crore in the year-earlier period, the company said in a filing.

Revenue from operations fell almost 3% to ₹698 crore. Input costs more than doubled to ₹200 crore from ₹91 crore in the year-earlier period, the company added.

On a consolidated basis, the sugar division reported an operating loss of ₹129 crore (loss of ₹9 crore) while the farm inputs division posted an operating profit of ₹727 crore (₹689 crore). The nutraceuticals division's loss before interest and tax stood at ₹14 crore (loss of ₹4 crore).

India to offer 5 MT wheat to clients, in bulk, as prices rise

Reuters
NEW DELHI

India will provide 5 million metric tonne (MT) wheat and 2.5 MT of rice to bulk consumers to augment supplies and stabilise prices, an official said.

VST Tillers to go bullish on global tractor markets

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

VST Tillers Tractors, a Bengaluru-based manufacturer of tractors and tillers, said it would invest ₹100 crore to set up a research and development (R&D) centre to further its research and innovation for the global farm sector.

Antony Cherukara, CEO, VST Tillers Tractors said the company has already bought four acres of land in Hosur to set up a global R&D centre.

In the last 3-4 years, VST invested ₹100 crore in product development and would be launching a dozen new products by this December, he added.

The company on Wednesday announced the launch of its Series 9 Range of compact tractors which were fully designed, developed and manufactured at its Hosur plant.

"With these new products, we aim to further establish our leadership position in the 4WD compact tractor segment in the country and in global markets," Mr. Cherukara said. "During the last three years we attained 30% growth, and now anticipate to grow 20% in the next four years," he added.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	65,996	0.23
US Dollar	82.85	0.06
Gold	60,050	-0.11
Brent oil	87.23	2.33

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2507.10	32.55
Adani Ports	791.10	6.90
Apollo Hosp	4981.35	-42.00
Asian Paints	3331.00	-17.05
Axis Bank	950.00	-2.90
Bajaj Auto	4666.55	16.40
Bajaj Finserv	1516.60	0.85
Bajaj Finance	7125.35	-48.25
Bharti Airtel	883.70	-1.70
BPCL	360.35	2.50
Britannia Ind	4600.90	-4.45
Cipla	1266.05	-0.40
Coal India	234.75	4.50
Divis Lab	3737.70	-108.70
Dr Reddys Lab	5871.00	213.05
Dummy - Jio Financial Services Ltd.	261.85	0.00
Eicher Motors	3412.60	40.60
Grasim Ind	1845.65	1.20
HCL Tech	1144.15	2.80
HDFC Bank	1650.50	0.60
HDFC Life	645.80	0.35
Hero MotoCorp	3059.70	-7.20
Hindalco	468.90	14.15
Hind Unilever	2552.20	-13.65
ICICI Bank	972.70	-7.20
IndusInd Bank	1408.45	4.50
Infosys	1394.40	4.20
ITC	458.65	6.30
JSW Steel	823.45	22.15
Kotak Bank	1831.50	3.50
L&T	2651.60	19.40
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5104.20	21.65
M&M	1534.75	35.05
Maruti Suzuki	9463.10	-79.45
NestleIndia	22218.40	-10.85
NTPC	218.70	1.15
ONGC	176.90	3.55
PowerGrid Corp	240.35	-1.15
Reliance Ind	2525.20	16.55
SBI Life	1349.35	0.00
State Bank	573.75	0.65
Sun Pharma	1152.80	4.15
TataConsumerProduct	860.20	12.75
Tata Motors	622.55	15.25
Tata Steel	120.20	2.05
TCS	3462.50	-8.10
Tech Mahindra	1228.00	22.60
Titan	2955.90	34.65
UltraTech Cement	8111.25	-45.60
UPL	615.20	10.85
Wipro	417.80	1.45

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 09

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.62	82.94
Euro	90.67	91.02
British Pound	105.20	105.62
Japanese Yen (100)	57.61	57.83
Chinese Yuan	11.46	11.51
Swiss Franc	94.21	94.58
Singapore Dollar	61.39	61.64
Canadian Dollar	61.52	61.77
Malaysian Ringitt	18.06	18.15
Australian Dollar	54.01	54.23

Source:Indian Bank

भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहमपुर
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur
Established by the Ministry of Education, Government of India
Advt. No. NT- 02/2023 Dated August 08, 2023

Opening date for submission of online application : **0900 hrs. of September 01, 2023**
Closing date of submission of online application : **1730 hrs. of September 30, 2023**
Crucial date for calculation of age/qualification/experience : **September 30, 2023**

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur, an Institute of National Importance, established by the Ministry of Education, Government of India in order to promote higher scientific learning and research as well as scientific exploration at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels of education and to create scientists and academicians of the highest quality invites **ONLINE applications** (**www.iiserbpr.ac.in**) from eligible Indian nationals to fill-up the following sanctioned Non-teaching posts as per the reservation and mode of recruitment mentioned against each: -

Sl. No.	Name of the posts	Group	Pay level (as per 7th CPC)	Mode of recruitment	Vertical Reservation					Horizontal Reservation	Total No. of posts
					UR	EWS	OBC	SC	ST	PwBD	
1.	**Superintending Engineer**	A	13	Direct Recruitment	**01**	00	00	00	00	00	**01**
2.	**Assistant Librarian**	A	10 (AGP)	Direct Recruitment	**01**	00	00	00	00	00	**01**
				Total	**02**	**00**	**00**	**00**	**00**	**00**	**02**

Note: The candidates are required to apply through ONLINE process only. Please visit Institute website **www.iiserbpr.ac.in** for submission of online application and full text of the advertisement for all other details regarding age relaxation, probation, recruitment rules etc. Sd/-
कुलसचिव / Registrar

Government of Tamilnadu
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Office of The Superintending Engineer, PWD.,
Buildings (Construction and Maintenance) Circle, Salem – 7.
E-TENDER NOTICE
Form of Contract: Lumpsum (Two Cover System)
E -Tender Notice No : 8/ 2023-24/SE/B(C&M)C/SLM, Dated 08.08.2023

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, e-Tenders are invited under Two Cover System by the Superintending Engineer, PWD., Buildings (C & M) Circle, Salem-7 from the eligible Registered Contractors of PWD., for the following work through online. Tender documents will be available from **16.08.2023, 15.00 hrs** onwards in the Government website "**https://tntenders.gov.in**" and it can be downloaded at free of cost up to **20.09.2023, 15.00 hrs.** The Last date of submission of tender through online in the Government Website "**https://tntenders.gov.in**" **is on 20.09.2023, 15.00 hrs** and uploaded tenders will be opened on **21.09.2023 at 15.00 hours** (As per server system clock).

Sl. No	Name of Work	Approximate value of work including G.S.T. (Rs. In Lakh)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit including G.S.T. (in Rupees)	Period of completion
1.	Construction of Hospital building for District Head Quarters Hospital at **Hosur** in Krishnagiri District	**9040.20**	**45,30,500**	**600 days**

Contractor class	:	Registered in Public Works Department **Class 1A** in State level / This Circle level (Above Rs.25.00 Crore)
EMD to be credited	:	EMD Remittance through only online

Name of work, E.M.D. remittance and other details will be available at the Government designated website "**https://tntenders.gov.in**". Any Changes in tender condition will also be published in web site. "**https://tntenders.gov.in**".

DIPR/4373/Tender/2023
Special Chief Engineer, P.W.D., Buildings (C&M) Circle, Salem – 7.
"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise)
WBSETCL
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata-700 091
CIN: U40101WB2007SGC113474 • web: www.wbsetcl.in
NIT No.: CE/(CTD)/WBSETCL/PROCUREMENT/2023-24/2 Date: 10.08.2023
The **Chief Engineer (CTD)** invites e-Tender for supply, installation, testing and commissioning of new Variable Refrigerant Flow type A.C Machines & dismantling of old existing A.C Machines at Special Testing Laboratory of CTD, Abhikshan Bhavan, WBSETCL. Bid documents can be downloaded from **10.08.2023, 6:00 P.M.** and bids shall be submitted (online) up to **11:00 A.M., 08.09.2023.**
Visit the following websites:- https://www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbsetcl.in for details.
ICA-T16108(3)/2023

मुख्यमंत्री निःशुल्क जाँच योजना
Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Limited, Jaipur
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur - 302005
Ph. No. 0141-2223887, Fax : 0141-2228065 E-mail : edepmrmsc-rj@nic.in
CIN:U24232RJ2011SGC035067 Website: http://rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in
No. F-8( )RMSC/EPM/M-6/NIB-793/2023-24/318 Dated: 04.08.2023
NOTICE INVITING BID
Bid for Item "Food Lab-Furniture" Of NIB-793 of Estimated Value Rs. 3,07,50,000 (Three crore Seven lakhs Fifty Thousend.). are invited from interested bidders up to Date : 16.08.2023 : 06.00 P.M. Other Particulars of the bid may be visited on Procurement portal website **"sppp.raj.nic.in"** or **"www.dipronline.org"** or **"https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in"** or website **"www.rmsc.nic.in."**
UBN:- MSC2324GLRC00064
Raj.Samwad/C/23/7176
Executive Director (EPM)

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, वृत्त-भरतपुर
क्रमांक: 1030 दिनांक: 28.07.2023
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या: 10/2023-24
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से जिला भरतपुर में विभिन्न योजनान्तर्गत वर्ष 2023-24 में कुल 05 पैकेज निर्माण कार्य (दोष निवारण अवधि 5 वर्ष सहित) के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार/ केन्द्रीय सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/ डाक एवं दूर संचार विभाग/ रेलवे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के विभिन्न सक्षम श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण वेबसाईट 'www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" एवं "www.sppp.raj.nic.in" पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से बेवसाईट "www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in" पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है।
NIB No. PWD2324A2018 & UBN No.

PWD2324WSRC09370	PWD2324WSRC09376	PWD2324WSRC09379
PWD2324WSRC09381	PWD2324WSRC09382	

DIPR/C/11511/2023
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. वृत्त-भरतपुर

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियंता चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य खण्ड-अलवर
सीएमएचओ कार्यालय परिसर, नंगली सर्किल के पास, अलवर
Email ID : eemhalwar@gmail.com, Mob. : 9982786969
क्रमांक : अधि./अलवर/2023-24/डी.-628 दिनांक : 28.07.2023
अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 24/2023-24
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No.ME/GNL/CR- 01/2023 Dated: 07.08.2023
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
Rates Quotations in e-procurement (KPPP) Portal are invited by the undersigned from the reputed, bonafide, resourceful & experienced firms/ contractors who are having similar nature of work experience for the details mentioned below for **"Providing 2 Nos. of minimum 30 Ton Bollard pull capacity each Tug service on hire basis for berthing and unberthing of ships, Search and Rescue (SAR) operations and other services for a period of 3 years with extension of 2 more years, if required, (as per same terms and conditions) by the port authority at Karwar Port, Uttara Kannada" round the clock (24 hrs a day).**
Submit your completed finished rates including **Handling, Operation and Maintenance (HOM) charges of Tug, Fuel, Water, Manning Crew, Maintenance, etc., excluding of GST** and inclusive of all applicable taxes, prevailing at the time of your quotation to the undersigned before **02.09.2023.** This sealed quotation rates are purely **for preparation of estimate / budgetary purpose only.**
The specification of required tugs for the Karwar Port in **Appendix-A.** Please go through the same before submitting your quotation.
For any further information please contact the following address.
(1) E-mail: marineengineerkwr@gmail.com
(2) Phone: 08382-221402 (3) https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
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DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/142/23-24 dt. 07.08.2023

WASHINGTON

Special counsel got warrant for X to submit info on Trump's account

AP

Special counsel Jack Smith's (in the photo) team obtained a search warrant in January for records related to former U.S. President Donald Trump's X (formerly Twitter) account, and a judge levied a $350,000 fine on the company for a delay in complying, according to court documents released on Wednesday. AP

WARSAW

Poland to deploy additional 2,000 troops to Belarus border in 2 weeks

AP

Poland will send an additional 2,000 troops to reinforce its eastern border with neighbouring Belarus, a deputy interior minister said on Wednesday, as a record number of migrants try to cross. The troops are slated to be deployed within two weeks and will join the 2,000 soldiers already stationed near the border. AFP

NIAMEY

Niger military digs in with Cabinet appointments, rejects call for talks

AP

The military junta that seized power in Niger two weeks ago has appointed new cabinet ministers and barred most international meditators as it works to entrench itself in power. The junta named a new Prime Minister on Monday, in what seems an attempt to show that they're serious about governing the country. AP

STOCKHOLM

Exiled Belarus Opposition leader wins Swedish rights prize

AFP

Exiled Belarusian Opposition leader Svetlana Tikhanovskaya on Wednesday won a rights prize for her "tireless" fight for democracy. The Anna Lindh Prize, worth $9,400 is given "to encourage primarily women who, in assassinated Foreign Minister Anna Lindh's spirit, show the courage to work against injustice". AFP

Focussing on 13-A without policing powers 'practical', Ranil tells House

It is advisable to progress step by step; prioritising sensitive matters could potentially hinder the attainment of any mutual agreement, says the leader; TNA says the President has 'successfully confused' the entire country on the 13th Amendment

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on Wednesday reiterated his offer to the Tamils, of implementing the 13th Amendment without police powers, while proposing a "step by step" approach to devolving powers to the provinces.

"Under the 13th Amendment, police powers have emerged as the most delicate issue in the transfer of authority to the Provincial Councils. As a result, I propose that it might be more practical for us to initially focus on reaching consensus concerning other powers," he told Parliament in a special address. "It is advisable to progress step by step. Prioritising sensitive matters could potentially hinder the attainment of any mutual agreement," Mr. Wickremesinghe said, even as Tamil political parties continue to voice frustration over the delay in meaningful resolution of Sri Lanka's national question.

A group of hardline Buddhist monks protesting against Ranil Wickremesinghe's plan on 13th Amendment, in February. AFP

Mr. Wickremesinghe made a similar pitch to the Tamil parties in July 2023, days ahead of his first official visit to India. The Tamil National Alliance (TNA), the largest parliamentary grouping of Tamil legislators from the island's north and east, "categorically rejected" it, seeing the proposal far from its demand for meaningful power devolution based on a federal arrangement.

New Delhi has been consistent in underscoring the historic constitutional amendment – flowing from the Indo-Lanka Accord of 1987 – and the need for provincial elections, but the 13th Amendment has not seen full implementation in 36 years. Further, Sri Lanka's provincial councils have been defunct for five years now, owing to delayed polls.

Stepping stones

Challenging critics of the provincial council system, Mr. Wickremesinghe, in his parliamentary address on Wednesday, contended that provincial councils have "significantly influenced" Sri Lanka's political trajectory, "nurtured skilled political leaders" and served as "stepping stones to executive and parliamentary roles". However, provincial polls would have to wait until certain laws are amended, he indicated, with no mention of a timeline for the much-delayed polls.

Responding to the President's statement, the TNA's Jaffna MP Sivagnanam Shritharan said Mr. Wickremesinghe had "successfully confused" the entire country on the 13th Amendment. "Is the Sinhalese leadership ready to resolve the Tamil question at all? Can you come out of your racist mindset and look at these problems?" he asked.

U.K. voter data hacked by 'hostile actors': poll body

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

The authorities became aware of the breach of the data of over 40 million people in Oct. 2022

U.K. voters could have had their data accessed by "hostile actors", starting in August 2021, the U.K. Electoral Commission announced on Tuesday, without naming any suspects. The authorities became aware of the breach only in October 2022, by which time hackers had access to electoral registers which contained the names and addresses of those registered to vote in the U.K. between 2014 and 2022, as well as names of overseas voters.

It is possible that the data of Indian citizens could have been breached – since some Commonwealth citizens [including Indians] who live in the U.K. are eligible to vote in local and general elections.

"We know which systems were accessible to the hostile actors, but are not able to know conclusively what files may or may not have been accessed," Electoral Commission chief executive Shaun McNally said, adding that steps had been taken to beef up security and resilience since the attack. The leak could potentially involve the data of over 40 million people.

Past record

The U.K.'s election process is dispersed and key elements of it are based on paper documentation and counting, Mr. Mcnally said. He also said that "much" of the data was already in the public domain.

Though suspects have not been formally named, David Omand, former chief of Britain's intelligence establishment, Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), said Russia was "first on my [his] list of suspects".

"We don't know for certain... but I mentioned Russia deliberately because of the past record of both the Russian military intelligence GRU and civilian agency, the SVR, in interfering with Western elections," Mr. Omand told *BBC Radio 4*.

Electoral Commission Chair John Pullinger defended the decision not to inform the public about the data breach until this week, some ten months after it was first discovered.

"...If you go public on a vulnerability before you have sealed it off, then you're risking more vulnerabilities," he told *Radio 4*.

'Australia to be testing ground for U.S. missiles'

Agence France-Presse
SYDNEY

Australia could be a testing ground for U.S. hypersonic and other long-range precision weapons under the AUKUS pact, a top Pentagon official said on Wednesday.

U.S. Secretary of the Army Christine Wormuth said Australia's contribution to the three-way AUKUS agreement, which includes Britain, "doesn't always have to be dollars".

The pact was signed in late 2021 and is seen as a way of countering China's growing clout in the Asia-Pacific region. Work under AUKUS has so far focused on supplying Australia with nuclear-powered submarines, a fleet capable of travelling stealthily over vast distances and striking foes at long range.

But the pact is increasingly focused on developing advanced capabilities such as long-range precision firing, AI and hypersonic weapons. Ms. Wormuth said Australia could be a proving ground for these weapons.

Amazon nations to jointly fight deforestation

Agence France-Presse
BELÉM

Summit in Brazil vowed to stop the biggest rainforest from reaching 'a point of no return'

Eight South American countries agreed on Tuesday to launch an alliance to fight deforestation in the Amazon, vowing at a summit in Brazil to stop the world's biggest rainforest from reaching "a point of no return".

The closely watched summit of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation (ACTO) adopted what host country Brazil called a "new and ambitious shared agenda" to save the rainforest, a crucial buffer against climate change that experts warn is being pushed to the brink of collapse.

The group's members – Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela – signed a joint declaration in Belém, at the mouth of the Amazon River, laying out a nearly 10,000-word roadmap to promote sustainable development, end deforestation and fight the organised crime that fuels it.

But the summit stopped short of environmentalists' and Indigenous groups' boldest demands, including for all member countries to adopt Brazil's pledge to end illegal deforestation by 2030 and Colombia's pledge to halt new oil exploration.

In his opening speech of the two-day summit, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva emphasised that the "severe worsening of the climate crisis" required action "in unison".

Colombian President Gustavo Petro meanwhile called for a massive scheme to cancel developing countries' debt in exchange for action to protect the climate, linking the idea to the post-World War II "Marshall Plan". Seeking to pressure the gathered heads of state, hundreds of environmentalists, activists and Indigenous demonstrators marched to the conference venue in Belém, urging bold action.

It is the first summit in 14 years for the eight-nation group, set up in 1995 by the South American countries that share the Amazon basin.

'Dozens of Pakistanis part of recent attacks'

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

Dozens of Pakistani Islamic State group militants have been killed or captured in Afghanistan in the past year, Kabul's Taliban authorities said on Wednesday, days after Islamabad blamed Afghans for involvement in suicide attacks on its territory.

Tensions between the neighbours have mounted recently over an uptick in suicide attacks in Pakistan, with Islamabad claiming militants are frequently helped by Afghans.

Afghan government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said on Wednesday that in the past year, 18 people "eliminated by our forces in Afghanistan" were Pakistani citizens. "They were *Daeshis* (members of IS) and they were involved in various bombings and attacks," he said, adding that dozens of others were being held in Afghan prisons.

It is the first time the Taliban authorities have publicly blamed Pakistanis for attacks in Afghanistan.

Sport

'We can match the best teams in physicality'

ACT HOCKEY

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Rhett Halkett, the new assistant and analytical coach of the Indian men's hockey team, has played against the current lot of P.R. Sreejesh, Manpreet Singh, Akashdeep Singh and Mandeep Singh. The 37-year-old South African, who has played in three World Cups (2010, 2014 & 2018), two Commomnwealth Games (2010 & 2014) and the 2012 London Olympics, felt that the Indian team has improved by leaps and bounds since he saw it in London.

"There is a huge difference between then and now," he told *The Hindu* here on Tuesday, on the sidelines of the Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament. "Purely from the physical standpoint. When we play against the best teams in the world, we can match them in terms of physicality every minute. That has been a huge improvement for me."

Halkett. M. VEDHAN

The current Indian team, according to Halkett, "will always be a threat on the counter-attack, always be a team for penalty corners, with an attack regime and routine," he added.

"The wonderful thing for me now, is that I am seeing the team's ability to defend, knuckle down and do the dirty work that goes unnoticed," he added.

He was all praise for defender Amit Rohidas and Manpreet Singh for 'running down' at the penalty corners, which he felt is a sign of top teams' culture. "During the match against Korea, we saw Amit running down three short (penalty) corners. That was pure gold, Manpreet did the same for two corners. That's what makes the difference when you get into top-four or top-six in big tournaments," he said.

Halkett was gracious in giving the previous head coach Graham Reid credit for instilling in the Indian team a good work ethic. "Greg did good work as the results speak for themselves. The 2023 World Cup in India was a disappointment. But you can't overlook all the incredible work that he did before that one game [against New Zealand]. We are lucky that a lot of good habits that he helped install, we now get to fine-tune."

Halkett knows the challenges in the Hangzhou Asian Games and the Paris Olympics. The defender with 157 Internationals, will be hoping that he could accomplish at Hangzhou what he did with the Dutch women's team as an assistant coach at the Tokyo Olympics: clinch the gold.

Jyothi Surekha sets sights on Asiad gold

ARCHERY

V.V. Subrahmanyam
HYDERABAD

India's ace woman archer V. Jyothi Surekha said she is eyeing the Asian Games gold later this year to complete a medal haul in all major championships across the world.

Fresh from the team gold in compound category partnering Aditi Swami and Parneet Kaur at the Berlin World Championships last week, besides an individual bronze, the 27-year-old Surekha said an Asian Games gold is one medal she is desperate to win.

"The World Championship gold is a huge morale-booster. We were challenged by windy conditions and rain. Still, we came up with our best-ever performance in any Worlds," she said in a chat with *The Hindu*.

Jyothi Surekha with the World archery team gold in Berlin.

"We made it to the Worlds finals so many times. But, somehow we missed the gold. Clinching the coveted medal now is a truly special feeling," said Surekha, who has won eight medals overall in the Worlds so far.

"The Asian Games gold is my target now. I want to keep giving my best and continue this form. It is never going to be easy in the Asiad as there will be some world-class archers from countries like Chinese Taipei and Korea. We have to be on our toes to repeat what we achieved in the Worlds." Surekha said.

"The youngsters are doing so well that there is an 'invisible' fight amongst ourselves to scale the summit. For example, the performance of the 17-year-old Aditi Swami was superb. She won India's first ever individual gold in the compound bow category. She started competing in the seniors grade this year and came up with such a stunning show. It is so good for Indian archery.

"I don't think I will be making any changes in my technique given the back-to-back events lined up. Right now, we are training in Paris for the World Cup (Group IV Stage). The focus will be on consistency," Surekha said.

Big support

On the support from Dream Foundation, she said it was great news for compound archers as they were not getting that kind of backing earlier as it was a non-Olympic category. "It has helped us improve a lot given the kind of comfort provided and focusing more on the sport."

Surekha added: "Competing in the Olympics is my biggest dream. Hope it will be included in the 2028 edition and I will be participating."

NATURAL GAME

It was important for me to be myself, says Suryakumar

Suryakumar Yadav, after steering India to a seven-wicket win against the West Indies in the third T20I in Providence on Tuesday, said: "I have practised these (ramps and scoops) strokes a lot and I love doing that. We (Tilak and I) have batted together for a long time, we both understand how each other bats and that helped."

SHINING STAR

Jaffer bats for Tilak's inclusion in India's 50-over squad

Former India player Wasim Jaffer has batted for Tilak Varma's inclusion in the ODI side for the Asia Cup and World Cup. "In the three innings in WI, there was no one else as mature, consistent and assured in his strokeplay than Tilak. He is very young and for him to come out and bat in certain situations, an absolute delight to watch".

TOP OF THE HEAP

Jadeja the most tested Indian cricketer so far in 2023

Ravindra Jadeja gave dope samples thrice between January and May this year, making him the most tested cricketer during this period, according to data released by the NADA. 55 cricketers (men and women, 58 samples) underwent dope testing in the first five months of this year, with more than half taken 'Out Of Competition'.

THE ROAR

Murray begins quest for fourth National Bank Open title in style

Britain's Andy Murray started his journey for a fourth National Bank Open title by defeating Italy's Lorenzo Sonego 7-6(3), 6-0 in Toronto on Tuesday. Murray, who secured titles in 2009, 2010 and 2015, clinched the first set against Sonego in a 90-minute battle before blanking his opponent in the second.

India delivers the knockout punch on Pakistan, tops table

Skipper Harmanpreet leads from the front as he comes up with two penalty-corner conversions; Jugraj and Akashdeep also on target as the host overpowers the opponent 4-0; the Indians take on the Japanese in the semifinals on Friday

ACT HOCKEY

Uthra Ganesan
CHENNAI

Cometh the hour, cometh the man. Harmanpreet Singh may have faced flak for missing penalty corners by the dozen but when it came to the crunch, the India captain stood up and delivered for a 4-0 victory against Pakistan in the Asian Champions Trophy here on Wednesday.

The result not just kept India unbeaten on top of the points table but also knocked the opponent out of the semifinals, dropping to fifth spot – level with Korea and Japan on five points – but with an inferior goal difference.

India earned five PCs and converted three, twice by Harmanpreet and one by Jugraj with a brilliant exchange by Mandeep Singh and Akashdeep Singh resulting in the latter slotting in the final goal five minutes from time. It also extended India's unbeaten streak against the arch-rival to 15 games now.

The difference between the two sides became evident as the match wore on. Despite starting on level terms and hoping to take India by surprise with an aggressive play early on, Pakistan's inexperience, waywardness and inability to switch gears was laid bare through the game. India's fitness too saw the team stepping up the pace towards the end, taking control of the proceedings.

Emphatic display: India brooked little resistance as symbolised by this Harmanpreet goal. M. VEDHAN

Nervous start

It was a frenetic but tentative and nervous start as both sides sought to attack and take an early lead but also wary of conceding instead. It led to some exciting exchange of possession and end-to-end hockey and scoring chances for both sides in the opening minutes itself and Pakistan went ahead in the second minute through a goal from Abdul Hannan Shahid – or so it thought – before a referral instead awarded a PC that was saved.

The young Pakistan side was relentless, constantly testing the Indian defence with the trio of Shahid, Afraz and Abdul Rana combining well and Arshad Liaqat and Umar Bhutta tireless in the middle. The Indians got their own chances but, between taking too long to get into shooting position and hurrying with their passes, they missed as many as they created. But Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Sumit and Shamsher Singh didn't stop pushing up and the constant pressure wore down the opposition, minute by minute. Eventually, a superior India had enough in the tank to outlast the opponent.

Earlier, Malaysia beat Korea 1-0 for its fourth win in five outings to finish second. The latter remained third, setting up a rematch of the two sides in the semifinals. In the other action of the day, Japan recorded a narrow 2-1 win against China, scoring at the beginning and end of the game but it was enough for it to make the top-four.

The results:
Japan 2 (Shota Yamada 8, Kentaro Fukuda 54) bt China 1 (Suozhu Ao 57); Malaysia 1 (Abu Kamal Azrai 22) bt Korea 0; India 4 (Harmanpreet Singh 15 & 23, Jugraj Singh 36, Akashdeep Singh 55) bt Pakistan 0.
Final league table (Team, Played, Won, Drawn, Loss, GF, GA, GD, Points): 1. **India** 5, 4, 1, 0, 20, 5, 15, **13**; 2. **Malaysia** 5, 4, 0, 1, 12, 8, 4, **12**; 3. Korea 5, 1, 2, 2, 6, 7, -1, **5**; 4. **Japan** 5, 1, 2, 2, 8, 10, -2, **5**; 5. **Pakistan** 5, 1, 2, 2, 7, 12, -5, **5**; 6. **China** 5, 0, 1, 4, 6, 17, -11, **1.**

India-Pakistan clash, eight other games rescheduled

ODI WC 2023

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

The much-anticipated India-Pakistan clash in the 2023 ODI World Cup has been advanced by a day (to Oct. 14 from Oct. 15). Besides the marquee clash, eight other league-stage matches have also been shuffled less than two months before the start of the tournament on Oct. 5.

In a statement released on Wednesday, with just 57 days remaining for the opener in Ahmedabad, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced changes to the fixtures. The delayed schedule was announced on June 27, with just 100 days remaining for the event.

With eight weeks to go, the revision has seen 20% of the league matches being shuffled.

The only solace for the cricket fans is the fact that the ICC also announced online registration for tickets to begin on Aug. 15 and a seven-phase sale of tickets, starting on Aug. 25.

The India-Pakistan match at the Narendra Modi Stadium had originally been scheduled on the first day of the Navaratri festival. However, with the central and state security agencies citing issues, the match has been advanced by a day. It will now be played on a Saturday instead of Sunday.

India's last league game against the Netherlands in Bengaluru has been pushed back a day and will now be played on Nov. 12. The switch was necessitated due to the Kalipuja celebrations in Kolkata.

With the schedule getting revised, the ICC has announced the procedure for sale of tickets.

Fans can register their interest for buying tickets from Aug. 15 on the tournament web portal. The tickets will be available for sale in a phased manner from Aug. 25 to Sept. 15.

The rescheduled games:
Oct. 10: England vs Bangladesh (Dharamsala), 10.30 a.m. (was a 2 p.m. game earlier on the same date); **Oct. 10:** Pakistan vs Sri Lanka (Hyderabad), 2 p.m. (changed from Oct. 12, 2 p.m.).
Oct. 12: Australia vs South Africa (Lucknow), 2 p.m. (from Oct. 13, 2 p.m.); **Oct. 13:** New Zealand vs Bangladesh (Chennai), 2 p.m. (from Oct. 14, 10.30 a.m.).
Oct. 14: India vs Pakistan (Ahmedabad), 2 p.m. (from Oct. 15, 2 p.m.).
Oct. 15: England vs Afghanistan (New Delhi), 2 p.m. (from Oct. 14, 2 p.m.).
Nov. 11: Australia vs Bangladesh (Pune), 10.30 a.m. (from Nov. 12, 10.30 a.m.); **Nov. 11:** England vs Pakistan (Kolkata), 2 p.m. (from Nov. 12, 2 p.m.).
Nov. 12: India vs Netherlands (Bengaluru), 2 p.m. (from Nov. 11, 2 p.m.).

With eight weeks to go, the revision has seen 20% of the league matches being shuffled. Fans can register their interest for buying tickets from Aug. 15 on the tournament web portal

The sale of tickets: After registering on the tournament portal on Aug. 15, the shortlisted fans can buy tickets as per the following schedule:
Aug. 25: Non-India warm-up matches and all non-India tournament games.
India matches: Aug. 30: Guwahati and Thiruvananthapuram; **Aug. 31:** Chennai, Delhi and Pune; **Sept. 1:** Dharamsala, Lucknow and Mumbai; **Sept. 2:** Bengaluru and Kolkata; **Sept. 3:** Ahmedabad.
Knockouts: Sept. 15: Semifinals (Mumbai and Kolkata) and final (Ahmedabad).

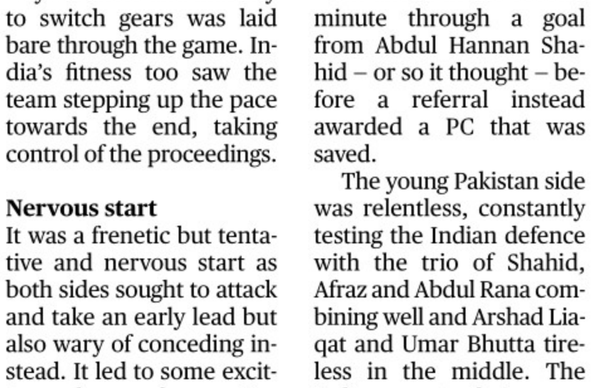
There will be more India-Pakistan games, just need to be patient: HI

Uthra Ganesan
CHENNAI

With players from both India and Pakistan supporting more games between the two sides, Hockey India on Wednesday indicated it could look into bilateral matches in the near future.

Pakistan coach Rehan Butt has repeatedly said the two sides should play more to increase the level of Asian hockey, and India captain Harmanpreet Singh on Tuesday supported the idea. HI secretary-general Bhola Nath Singh also agreed. "There will be more India-Pakistan matches. Of course, it won't happen immediately but it will at both the senior and junior levels. We just need to stay patient," he said. He reiterated HI's stance that the team will travel to Pakistan, if needed, for the Olympics qualifiers.

"The government has made it very clear that there won't be any problem in major multi-nation events. The Pakistan team has come here, their cricket team will also come later. I don't see any problem in that," he added.



In the pipeline: Hockey India has indicated that it could consider a bilateral series between India and Pakistan. M. VEDHAN

FIH president Tayyab Ikram stressed that talks around a window for the Hockey India League were on. "The most important aspect of HIL is to provide a professional environment for the players, which matches very well with my agenda.

"It will be done on a priority basis once we get a clear window request. We have only had informal discussions so far, but it will be done without any delay," he said.

Bhola Nath added that the initial planning has been done and official discussions would begin soon. Both said that an international women's event, to be held in Ranchi, would be announced soon.

Ashraf recalled for Afghanistan ODIs, Asia Cup

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan dropped opening batter Shan Masood and recalled all-rounder Faheem Ashraf for the first time in two years for the ODI series against Afghanistan and the Asia Cup.

The squads were announced by newly appointed chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq on Wednesday after consulting with team director Mickey Arthur, head coach Grant Bradbrun and captain Babar Azam.

Pakistan is due to play a three-match ODI series against Afghanistan in Sri Lanka this month before the Asia Cup begins in Multan on Aug. 30.

The squad: Babar Azam (capt.), Abdullah Shafique, Fakhar Zaman, Imam-ul-Haq, Salman Ali Agha, Iftikhar Ahmed, Tayyab Tahir, Saud Shakeel, Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Haris, Shadab Khan, Mohammad Nawaz, Usama Mir, Faheem Ashraf, Haris Rauf, Mohammad Wasim, Naseem Shah and Shaheen Afridi.

Shaw smashes a double century for Northamptonshire

Boundaries galore: Shaw's 153-ball 244 contained 28 fours and 11 sixes. TWITTER/NORTHANTSCCC

Press Trust of India
NORTHAMPTON

Out-of-favour India opener Prithvi Shaw returned to form in style with a 153-ball 244 for Northamptonshire in England's One-Day Cup tournament against Somerset here on Wednesday.

The 23-year-old, who is playing in his maiden county season, smashed 28 fours and 11 sixes en route to his second List-A double century. This was his ninth List-A century and the first since his 165 against Karnataka in the Vijay Hazare Trophy semifinal in 2020-21.

Playing his third game for the Northamptonshire, Shaw reached his maiden hundred for the side off 81 balls. He cruised to his 200 off just 129 balls with the help of 24 fours and eight sixes to power Northamptonshire to 415 for eight after it opted to bat.

The Mumbai batter had struck an unbeaten 227 against Puducherry in the Vijay Hazare Trophy in February 2021 for his maiden List-A double hundred.

Vidit closer to last-16; Pragg holds Nakamura

CHESS WORLD CUP

Sports Bureau

Vidit Gujrathi moved within a draw from entering the World Cup chess pre-quarterfinals after nailing Frenchman Etienne Bacrot in just 30 moves in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Wednesday.

After the first game of the fourth round, Arjun Erigaisi could have been the other Indian winner had he not let Uzbek Sindarov Javokhir off the hook after an inaccurate continuation on the 62nd move during their 81-move draw.

On a day when Magnus Carlsen crashed to a 58-move defeat against young German Vincent Keymer and Wesley So lost to Serbian Alexey Sarana in 34 moves, D. Gukesh drew with Russian Andrey Esipenko.

Two impressive results, involving Indians, came when R. Praggnanandhaa kept second seed Hikaru Nakamura at bay in 46 moves and Nihal Sarin gave nothing away to fourth seed Ian Nepomniachtchi during their 55-move draw.

However, in the women's section, third seed K. Humpy suffered a jolt at the hands of Georgian Bella Khotenashvili, rated over 100 points below, in 42 moves. The Indian spearhead faces a must-win situation in the second game on Thursday.

D. Harika, the other Indian in the fray, was extremely lucky to escape defeat against Eline Roebers in 70 moves after her Dutch rival blundered on the 50th move in a winning position.

The results: Open (Round 4, Game 1, prefix denotes seeding): 8-D. Gukesh (2744) drew with 40-Andrey Esipenko (FIDE, 2683); 20-Vidit Gujrathi (2719) bt 52-Etienne Bacrot (Fra, 2662); 4-Ian Nepomniachtchi (FIDE, 2779) drew with 36-Nihal Sarin (2688); 55-Javokhir Sindarov (Uzb, 2659) drew with 23-Arjun Erigaisi (2710); 2-Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 2787) drew with 31-R. Praggnanandhaa (2690).
Women (pre-quarterfinals, Game 1): 3-K. Humpy (2553) loses to 14-Bella Khotenashvili (Geo, 2475); 26-Eline Roebers (Ned, 2419) drew with 10-D. Harika (2500).

INBRIEF

GFI advocates gymnasts' Asiad participation

The Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI) has again written to the Sports Authority of India (SAI), advocating the participation of the selected gymnasts, including Olympian Dipa Karmakar, in the Hangzhou Asian Games. GFI president Sudhir Mittal, in a letter addressed to SAI director general Sandip Pradhan on Monday, said that recent news about the gymnasts created confusion. He underlined that the gymnasts fulfilled the eligibility criteria set by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) in its July 10 circular.

Mizoram boys, Chhattisgarh girls emerge champions

Mizoram defeated Uttar Pradesh 63-33 for its third successive boys' title at the 48th sub-junior National basketball at Puducherry on Wednesday. Emmanuel Lalpekhlua top-scored for Mizoram with 20 points. Chhattisgarh pipped Tamil Nadu 49-47 to become the girls' champion.

The results (finals):
Boys: Mizoram 63 (Emmanuel Lalpekhlua 20, Stephan C. Lalhruaitluanga 16, Samuel Vanlalpeka 13) bt Uttar Pradesh 33 (Jatin Sharma 11).
Girls: Chhattisgarh 49 (P. Antra Rao 14, Rumi Konwar 12, Divya Rangari 11) bt Tamil Nadu 47 (A. Charulatha 10).

Blue Star FC gets the better of Shubhodaya FC

Blue Star FC beat Shubhodaya FC 5-3 in the KSFA Bangalore North & South C-division football league in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

Other results: Blue Diamond FC 3 bt Rare Dare FC 1; NEYFC 5 bt FC Revelation 0.

LIVE TELECAST

Durand Cup: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3 & 6 p.m.

Being realistic: H.S. Prannoy is happy staying in the present and giving his best. AFP

Prannoy focusing on 'short-term targets'

'I have been consistently able to play quarterfinals and semifinals and I am trying to make sure I go the extra one more round and win events'

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

He may be one of the front-runners in the Olympic race but star Indian shuttler H.S. Prannoy doesn't want to think about Paris right now and is instead focussing on "short-term targets" like breaking into the world's top three.

"Right now, probably I am in a good position. I had a few decent tournaments post-May but I would say I am never satisfied and I always want to go out there and win big tournaments, that's been always my ambition," Prannoy said.

"Last couple of years, I have been consistently able to play quarterfinals and semifinals and now I am trying to make sure that I go that extra one more round and be in the final and win those tournaments. In the coming months that will be the challenge: to get into the top five, or be in the top three in the world, which I have never been able to do till now. I think that is the target as of now. I am not looking way ahead, at the Olympics," he said.

"Now the targets are much shorter, how we can perform next week or say World Championship or China Open, that's the only target and the rest of things will take care of itself."

"I am not really looking into the world championships as of now, I know it is just two weeks away. To be honest, we had three back-to-back tournaments –Korea, Japan and Australia," he said.

"Japan and Australia were very good, I played some good matches against top players and to reach a final of a third tournament is always tough both physically and mentally."

Hectic schedule

"Looking forward to the World Championships, we hardly have 10 days. With a hectic schedule, it is tough to get back to 100% in such a short span, but yes, I will try to get my body ready for the World Championships.

Gokulam Kerala grounds IAF to start on a winning note

DURAND CUP

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Former champion Gokulam Kerala FC started its campaign on a winning note downing the Indian Air Force Football Team 2-0 in a group C league match of the 132nd Durand Cup, at the Kishore Bharati Stadium on Wednesday.

Sourav scored the opener late in the first half before Sreekuttan V.S., on as a substitute after the break, sealed the issue with a spectacular finish midway through the second half.

The win offered a positive start for Gokulam Kerala which will face ISL powerhouses like Kerala Blasters and Bengaluru FC, the defending champion, in the next two group fixtures.

Earlier in the day, Tribhuvan Army FC of Nepal was held to a 1-1 draw by I-League side Delhi FC in a Group E match at the SAI Stadium, Kokrajhar.

Dinesh Henjan scored for Tribhuvan Army while Girish Khosla scored the equaliser late for Delhi FC. After having held Hyderabad FC 1-1 in its first outing, this was Delhi FC's second straight draw.

With the fourth side in the group, Chennaiyin FC, yet to begin its campaign, Delhi FC remained on top of the group standings with two points from as many matches.

Midfield tussle: Gokulam Kerala and Indian Air Force fight it out on Wednesday. DEBASISH BHADURI

The results: Group C (Kolkata): Gokulam Kerala FC 2 (Sourav 36, Sreekuttan 67) bt Indian Air Force FT 0.

Group E (Kokrajhar): Delhi FC 1 (Girish Khosla 88) drew with Tribhuvan Army FC 1 (Dinesh Henjan 39).

India cricket Board makes $1.5bn surplus in five years

Agence France-Presse
NEW DELHI

India's cricket Board earned a surplus of around $1.5 billion in the five years to 2021-22, the country's parliament heard during a rare look into the sporting body's finances. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) does not typically publish its finances in detail. But it is known to be one of the world's most lucrative governing bodies.

Vishesh Bhriguvanshi to lead Indian basketball team

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Vishesh Bhriguvanshi will lead India in the FIBA Olympic pre-qualifying Asian basketball tournament in Damascus from August 12 to 17.

The other participating teams in the tournament include Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Bahrain and Indonesia.

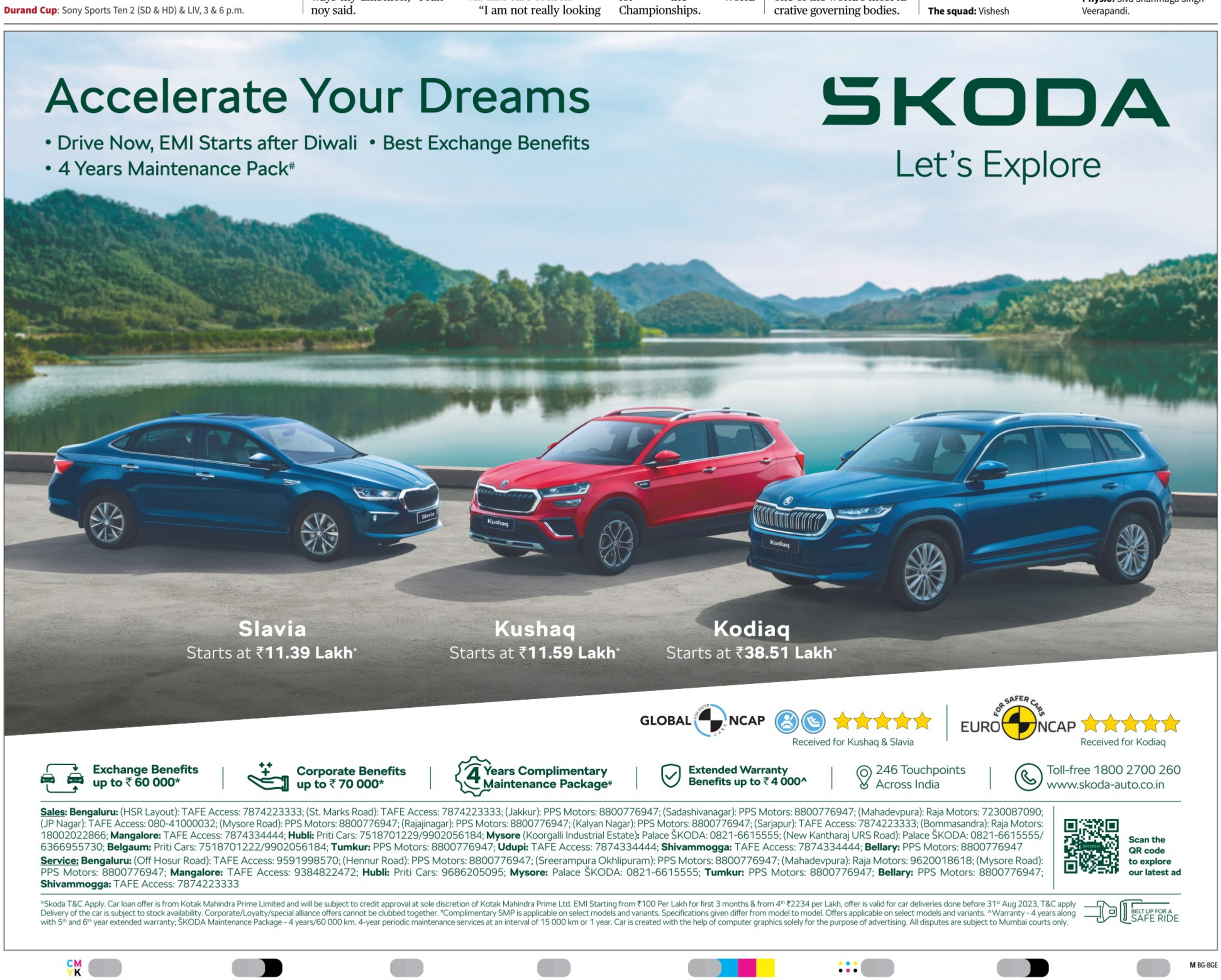
The squad: Vishesh Bhriguvanshi (capt.), Amjyot Singh, Arvind Kumar Muthu Krishnan, Muin Bek Hafeez, Pranav Prince, Prashant Singh Rawat, Harsh Dagar, Aravind Annadurai, Palpreet Singh Brar, Amaan Sandhu, Sahaij Pratap Singh Sekhon, Mirant Bharatbhai Italia.

Support staff:

Head Coach: Veselin Matic.;

Coaches: Santosh Pondicherry Somasundaram, Pradeep Tomar, Vinod Pazhani Goutham.

Physio: Siva Shanmuga Singh Veerapandi.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BELT UP FOR A SAFE RIDE